Trade and Industry

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Waterloo Bridge House, Waterloo Road, SE1 8UA	**01-275 3000**
Cleland House, Page Street, SW1P 4LW	**01-222 8020**

In Scotland

Contact **The Scottish Economic Planning Department, Industrial Development Division, 314 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G3 8XF**	**041-248 2855**

In Wales

Contact **The Welsh Office, Industry Department, Block 2, Gabalfa, Cardiff CF4 4YL**	**0222 62131**

Trade and Industry

7 May 1976

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Loading cargo on to a wide-door Boeing 707 at Nairobi, Kenya. A review of the air cargo market begins on page 350.

Readers' reply service

For more information about the products and services advertised in this issue, mark the appropriate key number on the readers' reply service form on page 401.

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Home News

Ministers speak on struggle against inflation

'Towards a successful counter-inflation policy' – Edmund Dell

'Our success in exports will be largely dependent on our success in achieving substantial further progress in the battle against inflation . . . and a successful counter-inflation policy needs more than one element,' said Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, speaking to the Society of Dyers and Colourists in Glasgow on 30 April.

'The Government must ensure that inflation is not stimulated by excessive demands on national resources from whatever source. That means first a demand management policy which looks for increased demands not to domestic consumer reflation but to investment and exports. Secondly, it means control of public expenditure, and of the money supply, a reduction in the public sector borrowing requirement as the economy expands, which must have priority. Thirdly, we must have a policy for incomes which is voluntarily accepted, which will stick throughout the whole of the next wage round and which will help substantially to reduce the rate of inflation.

'It is on this vital element in the nation's counter-inflation strategy and on the negotiations leading to agreement on a policy for the next wage round that all eyes are now concentrated. The Chancellor presented the arithmetic clearly in his Budget speech, and all I need add as Trade Minister is this:

'I hope that everyone in this country has realised what is, in fact, at stake in the current discussions about the next phase of incomes policy. If we can achieve our target of bringing our domestic rate of inflation down to that of our major industrial competitors by the end of 1977 at latest, or indeed if we can do even better, the economic prospects for this country can be transformed.

'We are in a highly competitive position and if we can maintain and improve that competitiveness by controlling our own domestic costs – those costs, that is, that are in our power to control – then we can achieve at once the benefits of faster growth, of more rapidly falling unemployment and higher investment – all the benefits of that export-led growth for which we have so long striven but not achieved.

'The position then is this. We should not blame adverse circumstances for our failings. The first steps in the cure are within our grasp.'

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, at the Dudley Shopper's Shop last week. She is seen talking to Cllr. J. T. Wilson, Mayor of Dudley, before formally opening the shop.

'Battling together to beat inflation' – Shirley Williams

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection spoke of continuing evidence that the battle against inflation was being won, She was opening the Shopper's Shop in Dudley on 30 April.

Mrs. Williams said: 'I am most heartened that such good progress is being made towards bringing the annual rate of inflation down to the target of 10 per cent. In the past nine months the Price Commission figures "based on manufacturing costs" show that the annual rate (non-seasonal) has fallen from around 30 per cent to between 12 and 13 per cent and the Commission's index shows that to the end of February 1976 the rise in prices was 15.9 per cent, a rate lower than any since August 1974. The Retail Price Index parallels this movement and shows the current annual rate based on the last six months at 12.6 per cent compared with 36 per cent last May.

'We are now working towards a new agreement on wages which exemplifies the determination of trade unionists to beat inflation despite the sacrifice this may entail for many groups. And it is not only trade unionists who are fighting to beat inflation, the battle is more general. The CBI and the Retail Consortium are co-operating with the Government in the "Price Check" scheme in agreeing that over a six-month period from February of this year they would limit price increases to a maximum of 5 per cent on a range of goods important to the household budget and which account for 15-20 per cent of normal expenditure. This has meant sacrifices on the part of industry and commerce whose profit levels are in many cases already extremely limited.

'Local authorities too are playing a significant role in the battle and I am particularly glad to see that the West Midlands County Council is in the vanguard.'

Turning to the particular reason for her visit Mrs. Williams said she was delighted that as part of the Government's counter-inflation policy the target of 120 Consumer Advice Centres and Shopper's Shops would be met by the end of 1976. She continued:

'The progressive and energetic policies of West Midlands County Council are exemplified by the fact that this is the fifth Shopper's Shop to be set up by the authority. CACs form one of the ways in which inflation can be fought at local level by providing pre-shoppng advice which helps people save money. Another useful way is the weekly price monitor-

ing surveys of food and other essentials which have revealed that substantial savings on a basket of representative goods can be made as between one store and another. West Midlands County Council are running surveys in 14 centres and this is a splendid service to the local community.'

'Unity of purpose to beat inflation' – John Fraser

'The foundations now being laid for continued pay restraint will decide how effectively we enter the next phase of the inflation battle' said John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, addressing the seminar of the Co-operative General and Food Trades Managers in Brighton on 3 May.

Mr. Fraser continued: 'This week's meetings between the Government and the TUC will prove once again to doomwatchers how wrong they are in doubting our ability to proceed on the basis of unity of purpose.

'Without unity – trade, industry, the people and the Government working together – there can be no real national strength. The real strength which must be founded on consent. That is why it is so important that the new agreement on pay must be flexible enough for people to live with but also firm enough to achieve our price objectives.

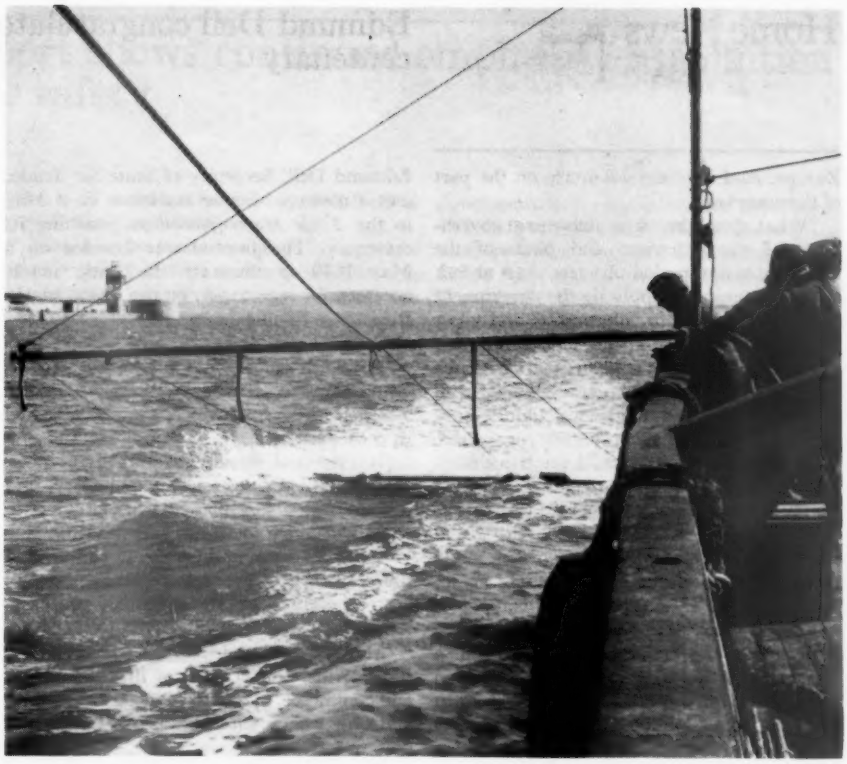
'When we look at inflation in relation to food prices, the latest published figures for March show that the annual rate of increase continues to decline from the high point it reached last summer of 29.1 per cent to 22.1 per cent in March. The trend is encouraging but there is no room to relax. Profit margin control continues to be exercised by the Price Commission in the distribution of fresh foods and enables Government to keep a watch on prices in this category. For example, the Commission carefully monitored the increase in the price of potatoes this year to ensure that the shortage of supply was not abused in distributors margins. It is this kind of constant vigilance which we know is of vital importance if the overall battle against inflation is to be won.'

Department of Industry Deputy Secretary appointments

The Prime Minister, with the agreement of the Secretary of State for Industry, has approved the promotion of Mr. A. J. Lippitt and Mr. R. E. Dearing to Deputy Secretary posts in the Department of Industry.

Mr. Lippitt will succeed Mr. A. K. Rawlinson, who, as already announced, will be succeeding Sir Peter Carey as Second Permanent Secretary in the Department of Industry on Sir Antony Part's retirement at the end of June.

Mr. Dearing will succeed Mr. D. le B. Jones, who will be moving to the Cabinet Office at the beginning of June.



Booms swung out during an oil pollution exercise off the Holyhead coast, spray the water with a dispersant liquid. For more information about this exercise see story on page 338.

'Wanted – a competitive, profitable private sector' says Alan Williams

The Government's industrial policy is not a means of moving to total control, Alan Williams, Minister of State at the Department of Industry told the European Management Forum in London on 30 April. 'The objectives of our policy are the same as the aims of industry – profitability, competitiveness, productivity. What we are doing is to provide the conditions and the instruments to help the private sector gain in efficiency and expand.'

'The Government has said very plainly that it wants a vigorous, alert and profitable private sector', continued Mr. Williams.

'Profits are needed to reward investment and to finance further investment. We must be realistic however and take into account that at a time of wage restraint prices also have to bear some restraint. With that in mind, while retaining a strict Price Code, we have relaxed the rules for price increases where this will encourage investment.'

Industrial strategy

Referring to the Government's industrial strategy Mr. Williams said, 'This is not a search for lame ducks to be propped up with government finance but an examination of industries with good long term prospects, or with the potential to compete successfully, or whose performance is most important to the rest of industry.

'The Government intends that its financial assistance should be soundly based. If British industry is to compete at home and abroad, it must produce the goods people want at the prices they are prepared to pay. Only an efficient industry can do this or one that can be brought to efficiency in a reasonable time. Programmes to improve industry's performance will be worked out, and these will be supported as necessary by the Government. This work is going on now in the National Economic Development Council.

'The Government has already introduced schemes of financial assistance to modernise and improve the performance of some sectors – the wool textile industry, ferrous foundries, machine tools and clothing. There will be more of these.'

NEB and Planning Agreements

In answer to suspicion expressed about the National Enterprise Board and Planning Agreement, Mr. Williams said. 'The NEB is required to behave basically as a private enterprise company and show a rate of return. I would not have thought that the private sector would see "creeping socialism" here. On the contrary, the presence of the NEB as a new associate with the private sector to help identify and promote worthwhile schemes on commercial terms should be positively welcomed.

'Planning Agreements have similarly roused suspicion. But they are not unlike the pattern of consultation between private industry and government in some other parts of Western

Europe. And they are voluntary on the part of the company.

"What they aim at is informing government of the objectives and plans of the company over a period of a few years ahead, with in return the supply by the government to the company of its information and views about economic prospects, at home and abroad, both general and in relation to the particular company. The trade unions will be involved in the discussions and be consulted by the company, except where particular information would prejudice commercial interests. These exchanges would obviously enable government and company – both management and workforce – to get to know one another very well.

'For the Government the planning agreement has as its aim not to control companies but to identify in each case where the Government can help and how it can do so most effectively. The system is bound to develop slowly, and it was only a week or so ago that it was made known that certain companies in the process plant industry were having discussions with the department with a view to making planning agreements.'

Edmund Dell congratulates 'Trade Marks Journal' on centenary

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, sent a message of congratulations on 3 May to the *Trade Marks Journal* on reaching its centenary. The Journal was founded on 3 May 1876 to illustrate the trade marks accepted for registration by the Trade Marks Registry in London.

Mr. Dell says: '

'I should like to send a message of congratulations to all who produce and use the *Trade Marks Journal* which has now reached its centenary issue.

'It is unusual for any government publication to have such a continuous history, and its publication for 100 years has provided a valuable service for trade and industry.

'It has been a comprehensive but admirably simple record of every trade mark accepted for registration, nearly a million since the Registry opened in 1876.

'Many of these trade marks tell a fascinating story of the development of British industry and commerce, as well as of social life, fashion and taste from Victorian times to the present day.

'But trade marks are not just a matter of history. A recent survey has shown their value to the consumer who has an immediatly recognisable symbol of the goods he or she is seeking.

'Trade marks are particularly important in the promotion of export trade. Many of the symbols and names registered here are held in high regard all over the world as representing the best of British inventiveness, quality and workmanship.

'The Trade Marks Registry in London has built up a unique expertise in this important aid to business and marketing endeavour and I want to thank the staff for their devoted efforts. I would like to acknowledge too the contribution made by the patents and trade marks agency and legal professions who advise their clients over the whole field of registration of the marks, and related matters.

'I hope that this centenary will create a wider public awareness of the strengths and benefits of our trade mark system, and that the Journal will continue to flourish during its second century.'

An article, 'A hundred years of British trade marks,' celebrating the centenary, was published in *Trade and Industry* last week.

The Economics of Industrial Subsidies

Department of Industry

Papers and proceedings of the Conference on the Economics of Industrial Subsidies held at the Civil Service College, Sunningdale, February 1975.

Arranged and sponsored by the Department of Industry to review current thinking on the economic analysis of various forms of subsidies offered to industry, the conference covered the following areas: (a) the rationale of subsidies to industry as viewed by the economist, the politician and the official; (b) the economic analysis of subsidies to labour, capital and research and development; (c) the problems of quantitive estimation of the effects of industrial subsidies. The conference was attended by senior officials from the Department of Industry, HM Treasury, the Department of Employment, the Central Policy Review Staff and the Scottish Office, as well as senior economists from universities.

ISBN 0 11 511638 9 Paperback £5.50 (by post £5.92)

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HMSO BOOKS

An outline of planning in the United Kingdom

Department of the Environment

Habitat, Vancouver 1976, United Nations conference on human settlements.

Habitat Vancouver 1976 was called to seek solutions to some of the immense planning difficulties facing the world governments – such as the prospect of feeding, clothing and housing an extra 3,500 million people by the year 2000. This attractively illustrated and easy-to-read book is a compact digest of the United Kingdom report produced for the Habitat conference. It traces the history of urbanisation in Britain, from the sprawling squalor of the industrial revolution to the present-day conflict between expansion and the need for conservation. It is a useful guide to understanding and dealing with the problems of industrialisation.

ISBN 0 11 750902 7 £2 (by post £2.13½)

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HMSO BOOKS

Patent Office 1975 report shows continued emphasis on pollution prevention and vehicle safety

The Report for 1975 of the Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks, published on 29 April, describes the trends in the inventions patented during the year.

It shows a continuing trend of inventions aimed at the reduction of atmospheric pollution. One line of development centres around the retroactive electric control of the fuel/air ratio fed to internal combustion engines in response to a measurement of the exhaust gases and is designed to combine clearer exhaust emissions with improved fuel economy.

Among vehicle safety devices, there was an emphasis on safety circuits to detect malfunction during use and to provide normal braking. Other developments were air-resisting retractable flaps for motor cycles and cars as an optional addition to normal braking systems; and the utilisation of deformable energy absorbers in association with motorway crash barriers.

There was continuing activity in gas discharge display tubes and panels which included the first colour TV wall display panel.

Significant advances in the electrical field relate to quadraphonic line transmission systems. In the medical field, development has continued on the perfection of prosthetic knee-joints.

Overall, the Report shows that the general decline of activity in patents reported in 1974 continued during 1975, with 5.1 per cent fewer applications and 9.8 per cent fewer complete specifications. Trade marks applications decreased by 5.4 per cent though trade marks advertised and registered increased by 8.4 per cent and 7.7 per cent, respectively, reflecting the peak in input of earlier years. Although design applications increased, their level is little more than half that of 10 years ago because of the fall off in textile design applications.

The report explains how large fee increases were required in 1975 to restore the Office to a position where the fee income recovers the cost of the services provided. There is still a substantial accumulated deficit.

The backlog of patent and trade mark applications awaiting examination fell during the year and a reduction in the delay before patent examination is forecast for 1976.

The report documents the international developments of importance to the Patents Office. It mentions particularly the preparations for the opening of the European Patent Office and stresses the significance of the Community Patent Convention, signed at Luxembourg in December 1975, complementing the European Patent Convention signed in 1973, which provides a complete legal framework for the projected European patent.

Copies of the report are now available from the Patent Office and HMSO, price 73p.

Patent Office publications for industry

The Patent Office offers industry a wide range of publications. These include the Official Journal (Patents), the Trade Marks Journal, British Patent Specifications, Illustrated Abridgements of Patent Specifications, Reports of Patent, Design and Trade Mark Cases, and 50-year subject matter file lists of British Patent Specifications. Details of these and other publications may be obtained by post from Sale Branch, the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3RD or by personal application at the Public Sale Counter of the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, WC2.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the date specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
9 April 1976		
1,015,278	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft	Improvements relating to radial needle-type bearings
1,021,245	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft	Improvements in high pressure hose coupling arrangements
1,034,959	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft	Improvements in or relating to controllers for effecting through control elements movement of hydraulically or pneumatically operated devices in vehicles
1,039,559	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft	Improvements relating to arrangements for the afterburning of exhaust gases from internal combustion engines
1,069,149	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft	Improvements relating to on-off control devices for hydraulic or pneumatic servomotors
1,119,950	Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft	Head protection arrangements for occupants of vehicles
1,117,709	International Standard Electric Corporation	Improvements to automatic telecommunication exchanges
1,344,413	International Standard Electric Corporation	Coin-channel detector
1,348,604	International Standard Electric Corporation	Telephone subscribers' metering arrangement
1,371,426	International Standard Electric Corporation	Automatic gain control in radio navigation systems
1,304,653	Hitachi Ltd.	Shadow mask assembly
1,385,719	Hitachi Ltd.	Process and apparatus for purifying exhaust gas
1,016,905	Peabody Holmes Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to electrostatic precipitators
1,195,368	Peabody Holmes Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to rotary pumping apparatus
1,043,216	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Electronic switching control circuit
1,156,965	Geoffrey Walsh Howarth and Henry Sutcliffe Trading as Elementex Sill Co.	Improvements in draught excluders for doors
1,172,915	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements relating to braking apparatus
1,183,254	Edward Harrison	Improvements relating to sharpening devices
1,255,853	George Victor Tylcoat	Wheel skid for trailers and other vehicles
1,267,251	Nippon Victor Kabushiki Kaisha	A colour video signal correction system
1,276,616	Phillips and Sons (Manchester) Ltd.	Improvements in guiding means for cutters for cutting cloth and like material
1,282,043	Societe D'Etude de La Propulsion par Reaction	Improvements in or relating to variable-ratio positive-drive transmissions
1,303,384	Institut de Recherches Chimiques et Biologiques Appliquees (IRCEBA)	Improvements in or relating to halogenated benzylphenols
1,309,446	Breveteam SA	A textile-like reflecting flexible sheet material
1,313,649	L. Robinson and Co. (Gillingham) Ltd.	Improvements in and relating to worm-drive hose clips
1,328,637	Edward Williams Holdings Ltd.	Device for clamping attachment to a body
1,329,795	Greg Alexander Novak	Pneumatic pressure indicator
1,340,613	Societe Industrielle d'Electronique et d'Informatique	Fuel injection system for internal combustion engine
14 April 1976		
1,165,979	Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to the detection of overheated axle boxes
1,193,474	Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to the detection of overheated axle boxes
1,235,104	Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to the detection of overheated axle boxes
1,346,989	Alfred Herbert Ltd.	Lathes
1,346,990	Alfred Herbert Ltd.	Lathes
1,116,265	Diessel GmbH and Co.	Apparatus for moving bulk liquids from a storage receptacle to a tank by creating a vacuum in the tank
1,296,384	Hans Viessmann	Improvements in or relating to boilers
1,300,566	Roger William Seeley	Improvements relating to bicycles
1,346,167	Marion Miller Andrew	Spectacle wipers
1,402,198	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Photographic silver salt emulsion for the production of direct positive images
1,412,201	Hermann Tempelhof	Connecting device for straps subjected to traction

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Oil pollution exercise off Holyhead

The Department of Trade held an exercise off Holyhead last week to test its contingency arrangements for dealing with an oil spill in the area.

Oil was assumed to be leaking from a tanker anchored off the Anglesey coast. The Department's organisation and that of the local authorities were mobilised to deal with the incident.

A fleet of five tugs carried out oil dispersal techniques, four in the assumed area of pollution, and one demonstrating clearance techniques in Holyhead harbour.

The operation was controlled from the Department's Marine Survey Office in Liverpool, and there was a forward oil control centre at Holyhead. The Coastguard station at Holyhead carried out a search and rescue exercise for two men assumed lost overboard from the tanker. County oil pollution officers alerted the organisation for cleaning up beaches.

A number of similar exercises such as this one are held each year off different parts of the coast. Others are due to take place during the summer in the Bristol Channel, on Teesside and in The Wash.

See also picture on page 335.

Improving employment conditions in the shipping industry

'The Government is determined to extinguish the last vestige of racial discrimination aboard ships,' said Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, at the annual conference of the National Union of Seamen in Sunderland on 3 May.

'A new Race Relations Bill is going through Parliament at present, and the Government, after full consultations with both sides of industry, concluded that two of the three exemptions for shipping under the existing legislation should be abolished by the Bill. These are the ones which permit owners to refuse to employ persons if this would result in persons of different colour or race being compelled to share sleeping, eating or sanitary accommodation and a similar one relating to passengers.

'Although we recognise that different racial characteristics and practices exist, we can't accept that they should give anybody the right to refuse to employ a seafarer.

'Where we've not been able immediately to meet the wishes of your union is in the matter of differential treatment for non-UK domiciled seafarers employeed in ships registered in Great Britain, and particularly Asians. Your union has argued very cogently that there is no justification for different pay and different conditions for Asians and others serving on British ships.

'I believe, as does the whole Government, that the practice is contrary to the spirit of non-discrimination. That is why we propose in the Bill that the exception may be repealed by order and would not need special legislation. We consider, however, that to abolish the exemption without reasonable regard to the practical difficulties cannot be in anybody's interest. It would be irresponsible not to face up to the facts – the fact that a very substantial proportion of the UK fleet is now manned by Asians, paid at locally negotiated rather than UK rates, the fact that to abandon this practice overnight would lead, not only to substantial difficulties for UK shipowners, and to the balance of payments, but also to the possibility that hasty action could result in a movement from the British flag or the laying up of ships.

'The Government has taken the view therefore that the proper thing to do is to put the UK shipowners on notice that the exception is temporary and that they should work together with the unions so that they can abandon these distasteful practices and they can manage without foreign seafarers paid at less than UK rates. There has got to be progress made here. The Government's policy is not to be viewed as a prescription for delay. We will not countenance that.

'It is the Government's intention to invite the participation of both sides of industry in a study of the problems involved in phasing out the employment of Asian seafarers at less than UK rates.

'Accordingly I want to stress it is not whether, but how, this practice, must be eradicated.

Disciplinary matters

'We are modernising the disciplinary provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act 1970, and have made a start by doing away with two of the sections which caused annoyance to members of your union.

'A Working Group was set up to consider in depth the disciplinary needs for seagoing employment in merchant ships. It reported unanimously that the power of Masters to impose fines, which many considered to be an anachronism, should be abolished and that, instead, statutory committees ashore should deal with breaches of discipline, reported by the Master, in accordance with new recommendations.

'One of the most important of the recommendations was the adoption of a code of conduct to govern behaviour on board ships. The Working Group took the view, which I fully endorse, that indiscipline in the merchant navy is confined to the few who should be dealt with appropriately, while the great majority of seamen can be relied upon to behave in a proper manner in accordance with the generally accepted code. How much better this is than to think in terms of the old-style discipline, which assumed that seafarers could not be trusted to behave properly without the equivalent of a touch of the rope's end. How inappropriate in our modern conditions are these old worn out ideas.

'The Government has announced its conditional acceptance of the Report of the Group. We now want to see legislation as soon as the opportunity arises.

'The ability of a seafarer to claim damages for personal injury occurring in an accident on board ship is severely limited. That is an anomaly which I want to see repealed at the very earliest opportunity.

Safety at sea

'We need a Merchant Shipping Bill on the statute book as soon as possible. I want to be given far wider powers to deal with all aspects covering the safety of life at sea. At present too many of these matters can only be dealt with on an advisory basis. My department has identified a substantial number of Merchant Shipping Notices which I believe ought to be given the force of law.

'I want to be able to take steps to up-date our existing powers of investigation into shipping casualties and also to enable us to inquire into incidents of a potentially hazardous nature.

'I want to be able to enact the recommendations set out in the steering committee on pilotage in the UK, also a unanimous report, which clearly have an important bearing on safety.

'The department produced last month a report recommending improvements in training for survival at sea. Although most seafarers receive some form of training for survival, this is of a somewhat fragmented nature at present and is by no means universal. I believe it desirable, indeed essential, that every seafarer should know what he has to do to maximise his chances of survival if he should ever find himself involved in a serious incident.

'We intend to cultivate the knowledge and expertise of all involved in this great industry, and to consult on a wider scale than ever before on a whole range of critical issues including international shipping policy.'

The Minister concluded by talking about Britain's economy.

'The overwhelming objective of the people of this country must be to vanquish inflation. In the last 12 months we have achieved much. We have more than halved the rate of inflation. But if we are to get inflation well below 10 per cent within the course of the next year, it is the Government's view that pay increases should be limited to about 3 per cent,'

Second government factory for Lancaster

Another advance factory of 1,350m² is being built for the Department of Industry at White Lund, Lancaster. This factory will be a block of six terrace units each of about 225m².

A contract worth over £190,000 has been awarded to J. Parkinson and Sons Ltd., of Lancaster. Architects are the Gilling Dod Partnership of Liverpool and quantity surveyors are A. E. Thornton-Firkin and Partners of Blackburn.

The premises should be ready for occupation in October. An advance factory of 1,350m² is already under construction.

Inquiries regarding purchase or lease should be made to: Mr. P. M. Innes, Department of Industry, North West Region, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA (tel. 061-236 2171, ext. 646).

Government factory in Rhondda occupied

John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, has announced that Exhaust Brakes Sales and Service Ltd. will move from Cheshire to take over a new government factory in the Rhondda Valley.

The firm expects to employ 40 people at the 929m² factory at Ynyshir, where they will make exhaust brakes, a braking system which reduced wear on the engines and brake linings of lorries and buses.

Until 1973 the company was based at Norbury, London. In 1973 it moved to a Government factory at Knutsford, Cheshire, where it now employs eight people. The new move to the Rhondda will entail expanding production by 300 per cent.

Skillcentre and additional advance factory for Ebbw Vale

John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, and the Training Services Agency (TSA) have made arrangements for the provision of a new training centre in the Blaenau Gwent area. To enable TSA to open the centre by the end of this year, the Secretary of State has made available a 2,322m² factory on the Tafarnaubach Industrial Estate, Tredegar.

The need for the centre arises because of the exceptional situation created by redundancies at British Steel Corporation's Ebbw Vale works and it is expected to operate at least for the remaining period of the run-down.

Knowsley advance factory occupied

Ontime Ltd. is to occupy a 2,300m² advance factory built by the English Industrial Estates Corporation on behalf of the Department of Industry at the Knowlsey Industrial Estate, Liverpool.

Ontime Ltd. moved from Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk into an advance factory at the Lillyhall Estate, Workington, Cumbria in 1972. The company was then concerned primarily with the design and complete manufacture of screen print material, metal signs and wire displays. It developed particularly its metal finishing facilities to diversify somewhat into the trade powder coating of metal components. Now two factories in Workington employ over 110 people between them. The Knowsley factory will be concerned solely with metal pretreatment and powder coating, and will eventually employ over 100 people. The factory is scheduled to become operational on 9 August.

Furniture manufacturer occupies Penryn factory

Bramwell David Ltd. has taken occupation of a 900m² factory built by The English Industrial Estates Corporation on the Kernick Road Industrial Estate, Penryn, Cornwall.

Bramwell David Ltd. is a newly-formed company which will carry out the manufacture of domestic and office furniture. When full production is reached, employment is expected to be provided for 40 people.

Hengoed factory will make toys again

Another toy firm is to take over the government factory at Hengoed, Mid-Glamorgan, where Denys Fisher Toys Ltd. will soon stop production.

The new firm, Gwentoys Ltd., will move into the factory in June, and expects to employ 40 people within the first year, rising to 60 within three years. It expects to draw most of its labour from the present workforce at the factory.

Gwentoys Ltd. was founded 10 years ago and has two existing factories at Pontypool, where it employs 100 people, and at Rye, Sussex, which has 55 employees.

The company makes a wide range of soft toys and children's cloth books and exports almost a quarter of its products. The Hengoed factory at Tir-y-Berth, will be used to expand production of the firm's existing and new lines.

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INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

(TI 8)

Eric Varley cuts proposed parcels increase

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, has intervened to abate by almost half a Post Office proposed price increase to the cost of sending parcels through the inland post.

Exercising his powers under the Price Code Mr. Varley decided to reduce from 25 per cent to 13 per cent the proposed cost of inland parcel post. Consequently there will also be some reductions for letter packets.

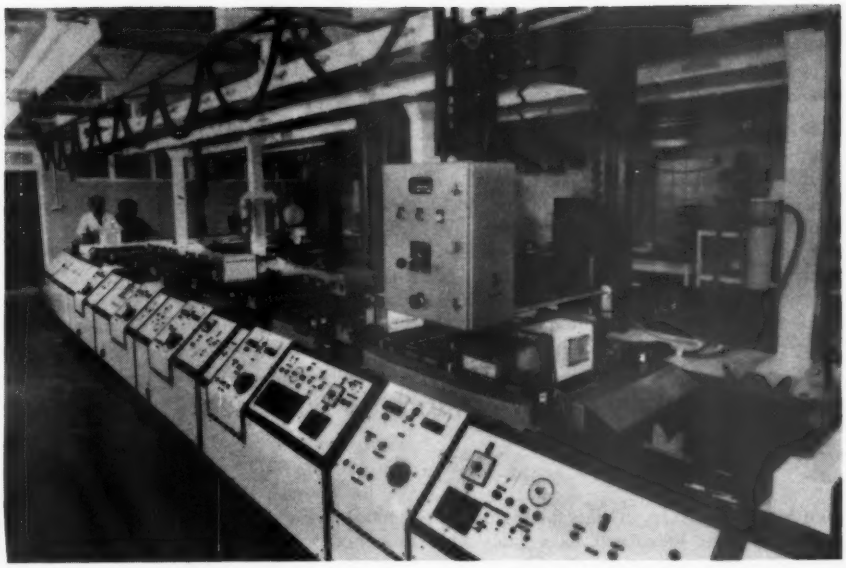
Details of the abated tariffs were announced on 29 April by the Post Office. They come into effect on 7 June 1976.

Mr. Varley's decision has been taken in the light of advice from the Price Commission and representations from the Post Office Users' National Council.

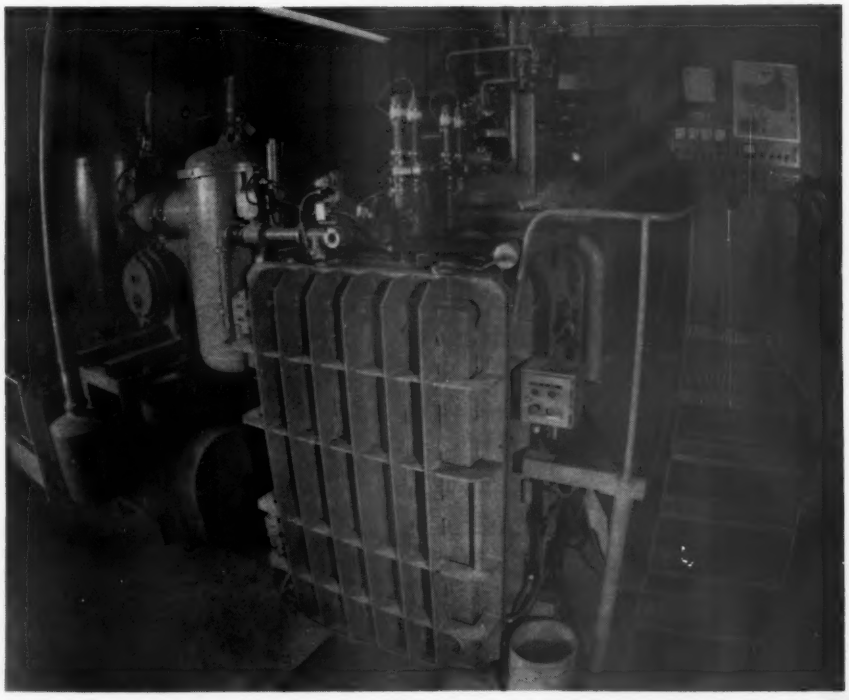
This reduction is possible because of the continuing impact of the Government's anti-inflation measures on the Post Office's forecast level of costs; the Government continues to attach great weight to the elimination of the financial deficit of the Postal Business in the current financial year.

The powers referred to are those under Paragraph 102 of the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) Order 1974.

The Post Office announced its proposals to increase its parcel and letter packet tariffs on 11 February. The increases proposed were 25 per cent for parcels and a range of increases for letters over 100g.



New electro-plating shop at the Portsmouth factory of Sealectro Ltd., manufacturers of precision RF coaxial connectors, insulated terminals and programming devices. The shop consists of three separate lines, allowing the plating of the company's entire production of precision components in-house, with any combination of precious and semi-precious metals. An automatic dumping control saves about 8,000 gallons of water per day in the rinse tanks.



Vacuum casting capacity which enables accurate and complex-shaped components such as gas turbines blades and human implants to be cast in super-alloys has been doubled at the Droitwich, Worcestershire, plant of Deritend Precision Castings, a member of the Deritend Group. Annual capacity with normal working now exceeds 250,000kg of components which individually can vary in weight from 10 g to 30 kg. Picture shows the new vacuum plant with rectangular mould lock in foreground leading to circular furnace and casting chamber. In operation, component moulds are preheated to about 1,000°C before entering the lock while the metal charge is melted at around 1,500 °C under vacuum in the furnace.

Amendment to Price Code

An Order to amend the Price Code in consequence of the excise duty changes announced in the Budget was published on 28 April. It puts into effect from Monday, 26 April 1976, proposals for a technical amendment to the Code announced by the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection in a consultative document issued on 9 April.

The duty changes involve increases in the price of beer and cigarettes, which are included in the Price Check Scheme. Representatives of brewers and cigarette manufacturers have indicated their willingness to continue their voluntary price restraint and ensure that their prices do not rise by more than an average of 5 per cent over the six-month period of the Price Check Scheme, in addition to the price increases due to the duty changes.

In the context of the Price Check Scheme, the Price Code provides that price increases may be made to recover revenue foregone by price restraint on items in the Scheme, if the increases on these items are limited to 5 per cent over the six-months of the Scheme. The amendment order ensures that the Budget duty increases are left out of account in determining whether manufacturers have raised their prices by 5 per cent or less.

No objections to the proposals for the Order were received from interested parties who were consulted.

The Order is the Counter-Inflation (Price Code) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1976 – SI 1976 No. 630. The Order requires the approval of both Houses of Parliament by affirmative resolution within a month of being made.

Price Commission report: December 1975 to February 1976

The underlying improvement in the inflationary situation continues, says the Price Commission in its report* to Parliament (HC 314, HMSO, £1) for the period 1 December 1975 to 29 February 1976.

Seasonal factors have slowed down the rate of improvement in recent months. But the continuing success of the pay policy and the upturn in production will restrain the rise in costs and prices.

Against this, the fall in the value of sterling and the rise in commodity prices will increase the cost of imports and input costs. But, taking everything into account, the rate of inflation should continue to fall. Profit margins in manufacturing have improved, but the improvement has not yet extended to distribution.

Highlights

The report shows that during the three months:

the commission modified, rejected or secured the withdrawal of 296 notifications of price increases from Category I and II companies which reduced price increases by £129 million a year;

about £7.8 million was secured in the form of price reductions or the absorbing of costs by larger enterprises which had exceeded their reference levels;

the Commission's regional staff secured 590 general price reductions from smaller firms which had exceeded their reference levels. This represented a saving to the consumer of about £8.2 million;

in addition, 164 individual price reductions were made following complaints from the public;

in the case of distributors, gross profit margins were on average 1.7 percentage points below reference levels saving the consumer about £480 million a year.

Costs and prices

During the three months covered by the report:

the retail price index increased by 3.9 per cent bringing the increase for the 12 months to February 1976 to 22.9 per cent;

the wholesale price index rose by 4.2 per cent bringing the 12-month increase to 17.8 per cent;

the Commission's own index, based upon price notifications received, rose by 3.5 per cent bringing the 12-month increase up to 15.9 per cent.

The rise of 3.5 per cent in the Commission's index for the three months is a further improvement on the increase of 4.2 per cent for the previous three months, September-November 1975, and 4.7 per cent for May-August 1975. At 15.9 per cent, the 12-month increase to end-February is significantly lower than the 20.4 per cent for the 12 months to November 1975 and is the lowest annual increase since August 1974. The big increase in oil prices last November, which slowed down the fall in the rate of inflation, now seems to have been absorbed and the underlying improvement in the inflationary situation continues.

Comparing on a six-monthly basis the three price indices – the retail price index, the wholesale price index and the Commission's own index – the report shows clearly how much inflationary pressure has been reduced. All three indices peaked in the spring or early summer of 1975. The rate of increase in the retail price index is now well under half what it was at the peak – 7.5 per cent for the six months to end-February 1976, compared with a peak of 17 per cent for the six months to June 1975. The wholesale price index has fallen from a peak of nearly 14 per cent for the six months to May 1975, to 7 per cent for the six months to February. The Commission's own index fell from a peak of 13.1 per cent for the six months to June to 7.5 per cent for the six months to January.

A slight upturn in the Commission's index between January and February is of no significance, reflecting monthly fluctuations in the pattern of price notifications received. The report says that what is more important is that the index, having been pushed up in November and December to a figure of over 9 per cent for the six months as a result of the oil price increases, has now come down to 7 or 8 per cent as the effect of the oil price increases fades away.

A slight upturn in the retail price index figures in February on the six months basis is due primarily to a rise in seasonal food prices.

The report says that it would be wrong and unduly pessimistic to conclude from these figures that the rate of inflation which had been sharply reduced during the second half of last year has now begun to level off. Because of seasonal factors prices tend to be higher in the winter than in the summer and this was bound to slow down the rate of improvement.

The big rise in oil prices was an unwelcome burden but it is something which occurs at infrequent intervals so that the immediate impact is great but tends to diminish as time goes on.

The report says: 'The full impact of the much-reduced pay settlements under the current policy has still not been fully reflected in costs and there is some benefit still to come from that source. As production turns up, this too should restrain the rise in costs and prices.

'On the debit side, the fall in the value of sterling and the rise in commodity prices will increase the cost of our imports and this will impose a further burden on our costs. Nevertheless, taking everything into account, we remain of the opinion that the rate of inflation should continue to fall.'

Level of profits

There has been some improvement in profit margins in manufacture. For the larger manufacturing and service companies in Category I, profit margins for the fourth quarter of 1975 were 53.9 per cent of reference levels, compared with 50.0 per cent for the third quarter.

Experience throughout industry is, however, very mixed. The two sectors – engineering, vehicles and metals and other manufacture (which includes chemicals, textiles, paper and printing) – showed very poor results in the third quarter but recovered sharply in the fourth quarter of 1975. In contrast, the food and drink sector, which was showing a high level of profits in the third quarter, has fallen back, and the profits of the oil industry have fallen to a very low level, probably as a result of price cutting.

For the Category II manufacturing and service companies profit margins show a rather larger improvement, from 51.9 per cent of reference levels in the third quarter to 58.9 per cent in the fourth quarter.

Net profit margins for the large Category II distributors rose from 51.8 per cent of reference levels in the third quarter to 72.1 per cent in the fourth quarter – but this was largely due to seasonal factors and Christmas business.

The wide disparity in the profit experience between the broad industrial sectors referred to in the previous report is brought out in a new table (Appendix 6B). There is even more variation between the results of individual companies but for reasons of confidentiality these figures are not published.

The new table provides an analysis of profits in industry groups of Category I and large Category II manufacturing enterprises for the third quarter of 1975, compared with the corresponding quarter of 1974.

In the food and drink sector, for example, where for all Category I companies profits in the third quarter were 76 per cent of reference levels, the profits of the sugar refining companies were just over 50 per cent, while the profits of the brewers, which are seasonally higher during the summer, were marginally over 100 per cent. In engineering, vehicles and metals, where the figure for the complete sector was 34 per cent, electrical engineering was 61 per cent, while motor vehicle manufacture showed a heavy loss.

Administering the Price Code

There has been some rise in the number of price notifications in the period to the end of February. For Category I companies the increase is small but it was bigger in the case of Category II firms.

The amount of the price increases notified for Category I enterprises fell slightly – from £607 million a month in the period to November 1975 to £575 million a month in the period to February 1976. This indicates that the large companies have made more, but smaller, price increases. This is confirmed by the percentage price increase notified, which has fallen from 8.4 per cent to 6.1 per cent in this latest period.

The experience of Category II companies

* Price Commission Report for the period 1 December 1975 to 29 February 1976 (HC 314, HMSO, £1).

is rather different. The amount of price increases notified has increased from a monthly average of £86 million in the earlier period to £114 million in the latest period; an increase rather greater pro-rata than the increase in the number of notifications. Correspondingly, the average percentage price increase notified has risen from 6.3 to 6.9 per cent. This increase probably indicates more a reaction from the low rate of price increase in the previous period than a significant divergence in the latest period. The report notes that it is the Category I cases which are really important so far as the movement of prices generally is concerned – comparatively, the Category II cases carry little weight.

The amount of price increase resulting from Category I companies shows a noticeable fall – from an average of £624 million a month in the period to November 1975 to £390 million a month in the latest period, but this is said to be a chance fluctuation. For Category II companies the amount of price increase resulting rose from £79 million a month in the period to November to £97 million a month in the latest period.

References to the Commission

The report reviews the progress of the Commission's work under reference made to it.

Under the fresh food reference the Commission keeps fresh food prices under continuous review. During the three months to mid-February the Commission's index of fresh food prices rose by 15 per cent and at the end of the period was 38.9 per cent above the level of a year ago. These rises are partly due to the increases in the prices of fruit and vegetables and carcass meats, but about one-half of each of the two increases is accounted for by potatoes, reflecting both the marked increase in retail prices of potatoes and their importance in most household budgets.

Towards the end of January the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection asked the Commission to report monthly on the effect that the present high level of potato prices was having on margins in distribution. The Commission's conclusions up to the third week in February are described in the report. A further report on potatoes has now been submitted to the Secretary of State.

Inquiries and complaints

Over 13,300 inquiries and complaints were received by the Commission's Regional Offices and the headquarters Information Centre during the three months, compared with 14,000 for the period to 30 November 1975 and 13,600 for the period to 31 August.

Although the overall number of inquiries has stabilised at a considerably lower level than a year ago, they tend to be of a more complex nature.

Many complaints were received about the high cost of potatoes and potato products. Other items which were the subject of numerous complaints included the repricing of books, restaurant and public house food and drink, shoes, bottled gas, instant coffee, baby foods, TV rentals, caravan site rentals, charges by local authority trading services. There was a noticeable increase in the number of complaints about the cost of service and maintenance of household goods, particularly washing machines and televisions.

Statistical analyses of the Commission's work are contained in appendices to the report.

Average retail food prices on 16 March

Average retail prices of about 80 important food items on Tuesday, 16 March 1976, are shown in the table below. The Department of Employment collects these prices from 200 areas in the United Kingdom on one specific day each month for the General Index of Retail Prices. They come from between 500 and 1,000 retailers representative of those from whom the great majority of the population make their purchase. Many of the items vary in quality from retailer to retailer and partly because of these differences there are considerable variations in the prices charged for many items. An indication of these variations is given in the last column of the table, which shows the range of prices within which at least four-fifths, of the recorded prices fell. The average prices are subject to sampling error.

The current figures were published in the April 1976 issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*. Prices since November 1967 have been published in earlier issues.

Item	Average price p	Price range From p	Price range To p
Beef: home-killed			
Chuck	71.0	64	78
Sirloin (without bone)	106.4	88	130
Silverside (without bone)*	92.5	84	100
Back ribs (with bone)*	65.3	54	78
Fore ribs (with bone)	63.6	54	74
Brisket (with bone)	63.4	50	74
Rump steak*	122.7	100	140
Beef: imported chilled (b)			
Chuck			
Silverside (without bone)*			
Rump steak*			
Lamb: home-killed			
Loin (with bone)	78.8	68	90
Breast*	24.5	18	34
Best end of neck	58.8	36	80
Shoulder (with bone)	53.1	44	64
Leg (with bone)	74.4	64	84
Lamb: imported			
Loin (with bone)	59.5	52	68
Breast*	18.3	14	24
Best end of neck	48.6	36	58
Shoulder (with bone)	42.1	38	48
Leg (with bone)	63.3	58	68
Pork: home-killed			
Leg (foot off)	65.6	56	78
Belly*	49.0	42	56
Loin (with bone)	79.7	70	88
Sausages			
Pork	39.2	34	44
Beef	34.4	30	40
Roasting chicken			
Broiler, frozen, 3 lb	30.3	26	34
Fresh or chilled, 4 lb (oven ready)	36.6	30	44
Fresh fish			
Cod fillets	59.7	50	68
Haddock fillets	65.4	56	74
Haddock, smoked, whole	63.0	50	75
Plaice fillets	75.5	64	88
Halibut cuts	112.0	70	150
Herrings	31.4	25	38
Kippers (with bone)	40.3	32	48
Fresh vegetables			
Potatoes, old, loose			
White	11.9	10	13
Red	12.4	11	14
Potatoes, new, loose	†	—	—
Tomatoes	40.3	34	48
Cabbage, greens	10.1	7	13
Cabbage, hearted	8.5	5	12
Cauliflower or broccoli	19.4	12	28
Brussels sprouts	13.5	10	16
Carrots	6.9	5	10
Onions	12.4	10	15
Mushrooms, per ½ lb	12.3	10	14
Fresh fruit			
Apples, cooking	15.0	12	18
Apples, dessert	15.3	12	19
Pears, dessert	19.0	15	24
Oranges	13.5	10	18
Bananas	15.9	14	18
Bread			
White, 1½ lb wrapped and sliced loaf	16.6	14½	18
White, 1½ lb unwrapped loaf	17.4	16	19
White, 14 oz loaf	11.7	10½	13
Brown, 14 oz loaf	12.5	12	13½
Flour			
Self-raising, per 3 lb	19.9	17	24
Bacon			
Collar*	66.0	56	74
Gammon*	85.2	74	96
Middle cut, smoked*	80.3	70	92
Back, smoked	88.0	68	100
Back, unsmoked	85.6	64	98
Streaky, smoked	71.0	60	84
Ham (not shoulder)	110.1	92	128
Pork luncheon meat, 12 oz can	29.7	23	36
Canned (red) salmon, ¼-size can	72.8	65	80
Milk, ordinary, per pint	8.5	—	—
Butter			
New Zealand	34.8	33	37
Danish	38.1	35	42
Home produced	37.5	33	42
Margarine (a)			
Standard quality (without added butter)	24.2	22	26
Lower priced	22.8	21	24
Lard	19.6	16	23
Cheese, cheddar type	48.4	40	56
Eggs, per doz			
Large	44.4	41	48
Standard	41.3	38	44
Medium	39.5	36	42
Sugar, granulated, 2 lb	22.9	22	25
Instant coffee, per 4 oz	50.1	46	56
Tea, per ¼ lb			
Higher priced	12.9	12½	13
Medium priced	10.5	9½	12
Lower priced	9.4	9	10

* Or Scottish equivalent.
† Insufficient or no quotations.
(a) Now quoted at average price per lb.
(b) Imported, chilled beef discontinued from January 1976.

Source: Department of Employment.

Price controls and the price of food

Price control in some form will continue when the present Price Code expires, said Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 3 May. Speaking to the Scottish Grocers' Federation Annual Conference at Peebles, Mr. Maclennan said:

'The price of food in the more outlying areas of the country is a source of great anxiety to the people living there. It was for this reason that we asked the Price Commission to make a detailed study. Their report has shown that food prices as a whole are indeed slightly higher in outlying areas on average – some 3p in the £.

'That food prices should be higher in outlying areas surprises no one. But the differences are not as great as some have suggested. The report shows that this is because lower prices for many fresh products – notably fish and meat – often offset the high cost of groceries.

'I must stress that the main reason for above-average food prices was found to be lower turnover. The volume of business would not, for instance, support a supermarket with its cheaper operating costs per unit of turnover and its supplies bought in bulk by the headquarters of a large chain.

'Although transport is often claimed to be the major cause of higher food prices in these areas, the report found that it was generally not as important as low turnover. There was no evidence to show that excessive profits were being made due to the effects of transport. The level of retail food prices in outlying areas does not in fact fully reflect transport costs because most of the national food manufacturers apply uniform prices throughout the UK irrespective of the distance the goods must travel. In some cases higher prices are charged for delivery by sea to the Islands which inevitably adds to costs. The report also did point out that the cost of delivering bulky and perishable foods, such as fresh milk and bread, to scattered communities must increase their price.

'The Price Commission did not recommend any action by the Government. I know that the quantity discounts obtainable on bulk orders are resented by small traders. They are however normal commercial practice throughout the world. Anyone who suggests that they should be controlled for the benefit of smaller orders has to explain how this can be done in practice and how it can be ensured that the net effect would not be to raise the overall average of food prices.

'The Attack on Inflation'

'In July 1975 when the White Paper '*The Attack on Inflation*' was published, prices in Britain were running 25 per cent above those of the year previously, compared with nearer 20 per cent for our competitors overseas. That White Paper outlined a bold new approach to redressing this imbalance; instead of imposing an arbitrary pay policy, the Government had agreed with the TUC and CBI a pay policy specifically geared to reducing the annual rate of inflation to single figures.

'The proposals in the White Paper were greeted with some scepticism. But although no one pretended that we had embarked on anything other than a lengthy fight, there were early indications of success as first one group, then another, demonstrated support for the pay limit. Now, three-quarters of the way through the first year, that trickle of support has become a flood. Some 7½ million people have now settled under £6 and the declining trend in inflation is becoming more pronounced. The annual rate of inflation has now dropped for seven successive months and the March figure (21.2 per cent) represents the lowest monthly increase since August 1974.

'It is even more encouraging to look at the annualised six-monthly rate of the index (less seasonal food). This fell from 34 per cent in the first six months of 1975 to 14 per cent in the second half of that year and is down to 12½ per cent for the most recent six months. Provided therefore that we can remain as realistic about our remuneration after next July when the £6 policy expires, there is no reason why the movement in the annual rate of inflation should not continue on its downward path towards the single figure target.

'It is also now widely accepted that if pay is to continue to be restrained then there must also be continuing control of prices. Price control will therefore be maintained beyond next July when the present Price Code expires, but the precise form which this will take will naturally depend upon the current discussions between the Government and both sides of industry on the next stage of counter-inflation policy and what this implies in terms of pay, prices, productivity and investment.'

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

OFT moves to new London address

The Office of Fair Trading which, since it opened on 1 November 1973, has had its main policy divisions accommodated in two buildings in London – Chancery House, Chancery Lane and New Court, Carey Street – moved into a new headquarters on 3 May.

The offices of the Director General, the Deputy Director General, the Monopolies and Mergers Division, the Legal and Information Branches are in the new headquarters – Field House, Bream's Buildings, London EC4A 1PR. They will be joined there on 10 May by the Consumer Affairs Division and the main policy branch of Consumer Credit Division.

The Restrictive Trade Practices Division will, however, remain at Chancery House, 53 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1SP – together with the Public Registers of Restrictive Trading Agreements and of Consumer Credit licences.

The telephone number for all OFT offices in Field House and Chancery House will be 01-242 2858.

Unaffected by these changes are:

The Consumer Credit Licensing Branch, Office of Fair Trading, Government Buildings, Bromyard Avenue, Acton, London W3 7BB, to which consumer credit licensing applications and other correspondence on consumer credit licensing should be addressed.

The OFT's Scottish Office at 9 Hope Street, Edinburgh EH2 4EL (tel. 031-225 3185), where a copy of the Register of Restrictive Trading Agreements is kept.

Facilities for access to the Register of Consumer Credit licensing in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Queen's Award office moves

The Queen's Awards office moved on 3 May from 1 Victoria Street, London SW1 to Williams National House, 11/13 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1. The telephone number for inquiries is unchanged (01-222 2277).

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the following merger situations to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

Linpac Plastics Ltd. and Standard Containers Ltd.

Lissauer Group and 25.2 per cent holding in Fraser Ansbacher Ltd.

Scottish Investment Trust Co. Ltd. and Second Scottish Investment Trust Co. Ltd.

Technology News

Sea-horse power – four ways of harnessing the energy of waves . . .

Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Energy, this week announced a £1 million, two-year feasibility study to assess the possibility of extracting energy from waves around Britain's coast.

Feasibility study

'The first stage', he said, 'which will last two years and cost roughly £1 million, is aimed at establishing the feasibility of the large-scale extraction of power from sea waves, and generating information which will enable the cost of further development to be estimated.

'In addition, a supporting programme will examine problems common to all the devices, for example: collection and analysis of wave data; wave loading and the effect on structures; anchoring and mooring problems; and power generation and transmission.'

The UK has one of the world's most favoured coast lines for wave power. Availability of this energy during the year is surprisingly high and tends to coincide with the pattern of seasonal demand for electricity, with the result that, in principle, about half the present total requirement for electricity in the UK could be met from a stretch of ocean as short as 600 miles.

The four devices to be studied are: the Salter Duck; contouring rafts; an air pressure ring buoy; and the Russell Rectifier. They will all be subjected to a programme of model tests carried out at 1/100 the scale in test tanks, together with supporting theoretical analysis and preliminary practical engineering design.

Making the most of rise and fall

The Salter Duck is a type of oscillating vane with the advantage that, by its shape, it is possible to extract a high percentage of the incident wave energy. The original concept was developed by S. H. Salter at Edinburgh University, and further developments will be undertaken by Sea Energy Associates Ltd., a subsidiary company of Ready Mixed Concrete Ltd., with S. H. Salter.

The contouring rafts consist of a series of wave contouring rafts, with hydraulic motors/pumps between each raft, converting the energy of raft motion into high pressure in a fluid. The device was developed by Sir Christopher Cockerell, who with Gifford and Partners and staff from British Hovercraft Corporation formed a company, Wavepower Ltd, which is developing the contouring rafts.

The air pressure ring buoy was designed because when investigating floating breakwaters in Japan, Masuda, the inventor, found that wave height could be significantly attenuated if the breakwater was in the form of an inverted box and the wave motion inside the box was made to work on air by forcing it in and out of orifices in the top of the box. A device based on this system will be developed by the National Engineering Laboratory.

The Russell rectifier is a scheme in which a structure composed of a series of high level and low level reservoirs is exposed to waves. The reservoirs are separated from the sea by a set of vertical non-return flaps so that waves drive sea water into the high level reservoirs and extract it from the low level ones. The scheme has been proposed by Hydraulic Research Station, Wallingford, and is still at feasability study stage.

Cancer research

A new technique for the preservation of cancer cells may soon make a contribution to the fight against cancer. At the Medical School of the University of Newcastle Professor John Owen is carrying out research into how the body fights back against the invading cancer cells. In the past cancer cells have been difficult to keep alive in the laboratory. Professor Owen has developed a technique for slowly freezing the cells – lowering the temperature by one or two degrees a minute – until the specimens reach −180°C. They are then stored in freezers. He has also managed to grow cells. This could help by identifying the substances on cancer cells which are recognised by the body's natural defences. If produced in concentrated form they might be used in immunisation.

. . . while Americans try a new way in the tropics

In the tropics the surface water temperature is at least 30°F higher than the deep water temperature. This means that within a closed system a fluid such as ammonia can be vaporised at the higher temperature. The vapour can in turn be used to drive a turbine generator to produce electricity and then passed to a condenser where it is cooled and condensed by the cold water and recycled to the evaporator.

Now $9.2 million are being set aside for the Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion project, which was the main subject for discussion at a conference held at North Carolina State University in January this year. A report produced by the Department of Industry in the series 'Science and Technology Abroad' gives a summary of the discussion.

'Energy from the Oceans' by John McAuley: issued by the Overseas Technical Information Unit, Department of Industry, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN. (Tel. 01-211 6826/6297).

Steel – is it likely to tear?

A system for assessing susceptibility to lamellar tearing in steel structures, such as those in the North Sea, has been developed by scientists at the Harwell Nondestructive Testing Centre and The Welding Institute. This type of tearing can occur in steel plate next to welded joints and the safety of the structures and their crews depends on avoiding the problem.

A product of research in the Nondestructive Testing Centre, the equipment evolved by Harwell analyses the ultrasonic responses from non-metallic inclusions from any given depth of plate, to provide a measure of inclusion density and hence susceptibility to lamellar tearing. It has already been tried out on a North Sea oil production platform about 200km off Aberdeen, after collision damage, when the equipment was used to assess material prior to repairs by welding.

Making spray in the wind tunnel

Wind tunnels are normally used to evaluate the aerodynamic efficiency of scale-model aircraft or racing cars – even high-speed trains. But at East Kilbride, near Glasgow, this month a very unusual 'wet wind' tunnel was commissioned by Separation Systems Ltd., a member of the Begg, Cousland group of companies.

Separation Systems produce and develop high-efficiency filtration equipment which, in the main, is used to keep salt spray and micro-mists from entering the air intake ducts of marine gas turbines – an essential requirement if the turbine is to give reliable service at sea.

In addition to much sophisticated measuring equipment, the new test rig has built-in water spray facilities which allow filter assemblies to be tested under realistic sea-going conditions.

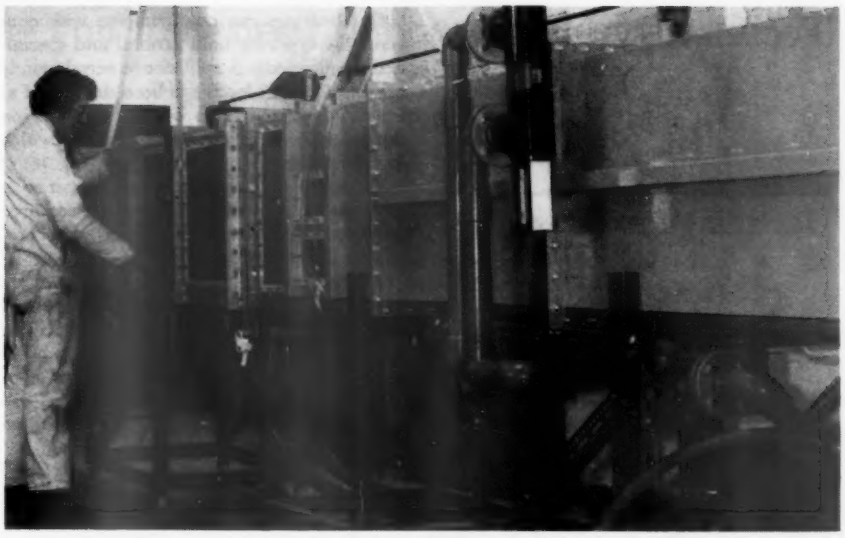
The heart of the system is a 45-inch diameter induced draught centrifugal impeller driven by a variable speed electric motor. A thyristor motor control system allows impeller speed (and air flow rate) to be continuously varied over a wide range. It will be possible to simulate gas turbine intake rates in varying modes of operation.

If a gas turbine is to operate reliably at sea, or anywhere near the sea, it must be fed with high purity air. If droplets of salt water, even in the form of a virtually invisible mist, are allowed to enter the engine intake the result will be severe corrosion ('sulphidation') in the hot zones of the turbine and equally damaging electrolytic corrosion where dissimilar metals are found in cooler areas.

Operational experience gathered on ships and offshore oil platforms has shown that if the effects of corrosion are to be reduced to an economically acceptable level, the degree of salt concentration at the turbine compresser intake must be kept down to 0.01 parts per million by weight in air.

The purpose of the Separation Systems test rig is to allow the efficiency of gas turbine intake filter units to be accurately checked, so both fine and coarse water-spray equipment is being used which can be adjusted to reproduce extremes – everything from the Force 10 winter gale to the humid salty breeze conditions of a mid-summer day. Authentic salt atmosphere conditions are maintained by feeding the rig with a fluid mix reconstituted from dried sea water.

The three-stage filtration unit currently produced by Separation Systems has proved remarkably successful and meets the turbine air intake purity standards considered desirable at the moment. The new research facility is, however, to allow the company to improve separation efficiency rates and at the same time reduce the pressure drop across filtration assemblies. The growing use of continuous duty gas turbine engines for pumping and power generation on offshore oil production platforms may well lead to demand for even higher air purity standards.



The new 'wet wind' tunnel at Separation Systems Ltd. at East Kilbride, near Glasgow. It can be used to simulate the adverse conditions at sea (wind and spray) in order to test and develop high-efficiency air filtration assemblies for marine gas turbine air intakes.

Britain and Poland to share mining techniques

Co-operation between Europe's two expanding coal producing countries – Britain and Poland – includes exchanging ideas for the quicker design and construction of new mines and for increasing productivity in fully mechanised mines.

These were among the topics agreed at meetings in London by National Coal Board Chairman, Sir Derek Ezra and Mr. Jan Kulpinski, Poland's Minister of Mining.

On a visit to collieries and research establishments in Britain leaders of the Polish coal industry discussed with the NCB progress made in their agreement signed last year for technical collaboration and exchange of information.

The agreement is now strengthened by collaboration on current mining operations – particularly relevant because the coal industries of both countries have major plans for introducing new coal mining capacity.

These new developments include: organising a seminar between the two industries in Poland, possibly in September 1976, on ways of shortening the period of design and construction of new coal mines – also to include exploration and planning and exchanging methods of making the best use of existing coal mining equipment and systems, and of integrating production processes, to secure productivity improvements. New mining methods will also be jointly studied. Details of effective dust suppression techniques adopted in British mines will also be presented.

There will be more extensive collaboration on coal processing, utilisation of waste materials, and computer techniques for production control processes.

Mr. Kulpinski said: 'As a mining engineer I am particularly impressed by developments in Britain on new types of underground powered supports and with your approach to dust suppression techniques.'

NCB Chairman, Sir Derek Ezra said: 'Britain has technically recoverable coal reserves sufficient to last at least 300 years. We are energetically proving those reserves to expand existing collieries and to sink some new mines. We intend to expand the capacity of our coal mining industry and are discussing with the unions ways and means of increasing output.

'The collaboration of our two coal industries will benefit us now and in the long-term. Now, because we can share techniques for operating existing mines and sinking new collieries. Long-term, because there will be a marked down-turn in world oil and gas supplies by the end of this century and all the coal that can be mined will be needed.'

A guide to research for the smaller firm

Research projects of special interest to companies and organisations in the small firms sector are listed in a publication issued last week by the Department of Industry.

This reference guide 'Small Firms: Register of Research' was produced on behalf of the Department's Small Firms Information Service from information supplied by academic institutions, business and training schools and trade associations.

It provides summaries of nearly 100 research projects, completed or in progress in the UK, the results of which may be of interest to small companies and to those concerned with assisting or advising them, including research and educational establishments.

The volume is available from HMSO and Government Bookshops, price £2.50 (by post £2.59). It is the second edition of the register. The first edition entitled 'Small firms: Register of Research and Centres of Specialised Assistance', was published by the Department of Trade and Industry in 1973.

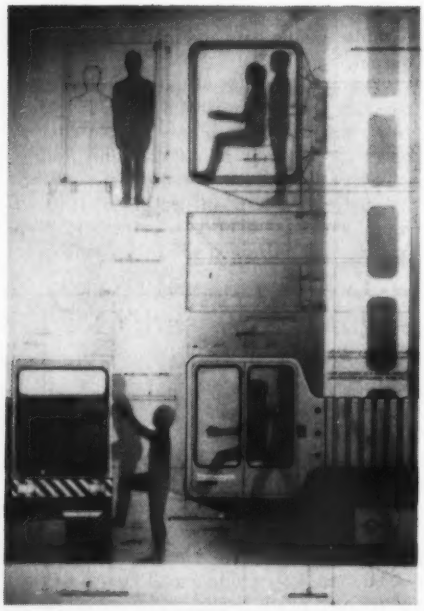
Technology News
continued

Designing for industry

A 'Designers for Industry' display opened at the Design Centre, London, this week shows by means of case histories and finished products how industrial designers have contributed to the success of engineering products and how graphic designers have evolved their solution to complex visual communication problems.

Photographs, including some 'before' and 'after' illustrations, drawings and models show the method of working of industrial designers and their contribution to the final appearance and working performance of the product.

The display is on show until 15 May. Some 30 designs can be seen, ranging from drawing equipment to shop interiors and representing the work of 11 industrial and graphic design groups.



The Halcotrack 400H drilling machine, a feature of the 'Designers for Industry' display which opened at the Design Centre, London on Tuesday. The machine was designed to meet the demand for a low running cost, low noise rig capable of operating in all types of strata and at a wide range of drilling angles. The design is one of some 30 on show. The display is open to 15 May.

Gas bearings symposium

A symposium on Gas Bearings (the seventh in a series), organised by BHRA Fluid Engineering, will be held at Churchill College, Cambridge, from 13 to 15 July 1976.

Gas bearings can now compete with conventional types for both general and specialised applications. A split sleeve aerodynamic bearing for light loads has been developed at Lucas Aerospace. This bearing operates on the principle of aerodynamic stability which can be achieved by distorting a semi-rigid cylindrical sleeve round a rotating shaft so as to create stable pressure lobes of the required amplitude. Applications include yarn processing in the textile industry.

Another paper gives details of the use of gas bearings in helium circulators for nuclear service. Gas bearings in gyroscopes and interferometry will also be discussed.

Aspects of instrumentation, surface phenomena, porous and self-acting bearings will also be covered and there will be a session on theoretical and experimental design.

Further details and registration forms from: the Organising Secretary, 7th IGBS, BHRA Fluid Engineering, Cranfield, Bedford MK43 0AJ, England; tel. Bedford 750422.

Own keys on Animal Farm

Few people would believe that an animal on a farm could be trained to open its own door with its own key – yet this is the routine at the new bull test station at Aalborg in Denmark. As a nation that has been accused of an obsessive concern for animal welfare, it is perhaps not surprising that this is a British invention. It has not been designed to increase bovine freedom, however, but to make it possible to combine a large number of animals with precise control of individual feed.

At Aalestrup Avlsstation, for the improvement of beef cattle breeding strains, precise control of each animal's intake is achieved by using Calan Electronic Feeding Doors, invented by Dr. Peter Broadbent at the North of Scotland College of Agriculture, Aberdeen, and manufactured by Calan Electronics Ltd., East Lothian, under licence from the National Research Development Corporation.

230 of these doors have been installed at Aalestrup, to provide efficient individual feeding facilities for an equal number of animals, without incurring prohibitive labour costs. Each door opens only to the animal wearing a matched electronic key suspended from its neckchain. The light, pear shaped keys are made of tough nylon, require no source of power, and last indefinitely.

Livestock – which are housed in groups of 10 at Denmark's new test station – quickly learn to make for their assigned places at the communal feeding fence. When an animal approaches its appropriate door, its own, individual key activates a low voltage electronic circuit. Current is switched to the locking bolt, which is automatically withdrawn, giving the animal access to feed of the quality and quantity appropriate to its needs. As a result, the diet of each animal can be carefully controlled and results accurately monitored for evaluation.

For further information please contact: Colin Watson, Calan Electronics Ltd., Crossroads by Ormiston, East Lothian EH35 5NL, Scotland (tel. 087-533 242).

Local deliveries on the quiet

Speeds of up to 40 mph (64km/h) and a carrying pay load of 35 cwt (1,780kg) are claimed for a new battery operated delivery van which was demonstrated last week at the National Exhibition Centre, near Birmingham.

Called Silent Karrier, the vehicle was designed and built by Chloride Group Ltd., the commercial vehicle division of Chrysler United Kingdom and the National Freight Corporation. It is already in operation with National Carriers Ltd., a subsidiary of NFC. Four other urban transport operators will take part in an intensive evaluation programme.

The vehicle has been specifically developed to operate in congested city centre conditions. It uses electronic controls similar to those incorporated in the battery bus Silent Rider, has an acceleration compatible with other city traffic and a range of 40 miles (64km), well within the daily delivery requirement of rather more than 75 per cent of all urban delivery transport. A new high performance lead-acid battery has been developed to increase operating range without any significant reduction in battery life. New batteries using sodium and sulphur as electrodes are being developed to give a predicted range of more than 100 miles (160km) a day.

The initial purchase price of the van is about 50 per cent higher than for a conventional vehicle but operating over 10 years, lower running and maintenance costs are said to give it an economic competitiveness.

Minimal cooling for high speed engines – improving performance

The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) is funding a £160,000 project for improving the design and performance of automotive diesel engines.

Started last November at the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research (ISVR) attached to Southampton University, the money will support the development of techniques for the production of smaller, lighter, quieter, and possibly more economical engines for transport and haulage vehicles.

This programme follows from work on reducing the size of diesel engine cooling systems, carried out at ISVR over the past three years. In this case sponsorship is bridging the gap said to exist before industry is willing to work on ideas from universities.

It is now proposed to build a multi-cylinder engine with the cooling confined to those areas where it is necessary to keep the temperature just within working limits, using insulation techniques. Reduction of the size of the water jacket provides considerable freedom to improve structural design, and great scope for reducing noise and weight.

Wear is not inevitable – you may need to change your bearings

Jennifer Clarke looks at triology at Leeds . . .

According to Clive Askwith at the Industrial Unit of Tribology, if men shaved in butter their razor blades would last much longer – perhaps for an average of 200 shaves. Looked at from the engineering point of view, soap and water is the worst possible lubricant – a fluid at which any tribologist would look askance.

In it a blade loses an average of 4mg a shave, taking the edge off its friction coefficient and a hairsbreadth from the critical weight loss of 5mg which represents 'The amount of wear that renders it inoperable' or, as you might say, blunt.

The Industrial Unit of Tribology at Leeds is however primarily concerned with preventing breakdowns in industry, where these are caused by wear of materials and machinery failure. When the Unit was started in 1968, to give advice in the field of industrial bearings, it was given a five-year grant by the Ministry of Technology. Over the past three years it has operated independently both from the government and from Leeds University and Dr. Wakelin, Director of the Unit is now receiving more and more calls for advice. His team of 15 were once styled as 'dons with dirty fingernails' in recognition of the fact that apart from their academic qualifications, they had all worked in industry for at least five years.

One of their more unusual cases concerned a fleet of tankers, changing over to a different oil to lubricate the engines. Because of their huge size, each tanker carries about 30,000 gallons of oil, but during the changeover, neither the old nor the new supplier could monitor the condition of the lubricant since it consisted of a mixture of the two oils in changing proportions.

From ports as far as Singapore and the West Indies samples of oil were sent to Leeds. Its physical properties were analysed in terms of viscosity, flash point, dilution with other fuel, acidity and water content. This made it possible to instruct the tankers on what action should be taken and let them know for instance whether it needed changing.

In June the Unit starts a new lubrication testing service. As in the case of the tankers this will cover not only the normal range of physical, mechanical and chemical properties of oils and greases but also an interpretation of results in laymen's terms and advice on what action the client should take, a feature which may make the service unique.

Another inquiry came from a chocolate manufacturer asking what lubricant could be used in a gear box. New government regulations concerning machinery which could come into contact with food meant that the old oil was prohibited and an acceptable subsitute was needed. Castor oil was discovered to be suitable. Surprisingly enough even margarine can be used in a gear box, although it works better without the salt and with extra anti-oxidant, an addition which has the minor advantage of stopping the lubricant from going rancid.

Few people realise that a 100 ton machine can be worn out when only one pound has been worn away. In a factory making pills (a well known proprietary brand) the dies stamped out 10 million tablets before they were worn out – after which it might have been assumed, wear was inevitable. But by introducing new die materials the Leeds Unit was able to increase this figure to 60 million. In the same way, by changing the metal surface in a machine which punched a hole through a piece of confectionery, the die lasted until it had finished 20 million sweets, instead of only 6 million, at a fairly minimal increase in costs.

Another case concerned four radar scanners one of which broke down due to fatigue failure. Study of the tribological facts led to the deduction that this disaster had occurred on the day on which, by rights, it should have been expected and another similar failure was predicted; a diagnosis which, as it proved correct, meant that advice was taken on changing the bearings after 10 years.

A similar type of improvement was achieved with the performance of machinery in the motor car industry. Here body weakness was caused by fatigue failure of the press to operate, after pressing 1½ million cars and once again this life was prolonged by changing the bearings.

In June the Industrial Unit of Tribology at Leeds are holding three one-day courses; on 8 June 'Help for the maintenance man', 9 June 'Bearing design and selection', and 10 June 'Productivity and materials'.

Those attending the courses this year will also be able to see the second international exhibition of lubricants, lubrication bearings and seals as well as the annual open days at the Unit. Further details from the Industrial Unit of Tribology, Leeds, The University, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9JT.

. . . and Risley

Comparatively little is known about the wear of plastics, which is now to be studied at the National Centre of Tribology at Risley, as one of three new research and development programmes for the Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tools Requirements Board. It has also been awarded a further contract by the European Space Agency to operate the European Space Tribology Laboratory.

The three R and D programmes are intended to benefit wide areas of the UK engineering industry. Particular emphasis will be placed on producing the data arising from each project in a form suitable for direct application by design and production engineers.

The first programme is concerned with the wear of plastics, and a novel wear-test machine will be used and design data sheets compiled for a range of commercially available polymeric materials.

The second is the evaluation of ferrography for in-service monitoring of engineering plant and equipment. Ferrography is a new monitoring method based on the rapid qualitative and quantitative analysis of wear debris from a lubricant sample using optical and scanning electron microscope techniques.

The third, to assist design and plant engineers select the optimum wear-resistant surface, will produce comparative quantitative data on surface treatments that significantly reduce wear in common construction materials.

The ESTL Contract has been awarded, through the European Space Research and Technology Centre, for the operation and maintenance of the European Space Tribology Laboratory at Risley for a further four years (to December 1979).

An intensive programme of tests on both experimental and flight models of satellite components is planned. One of its most important objectives will be the completion of testing of solar array drives for the Orbital Technical Satellite (OTS) and its marine development (MAROTS). Supporting development projects will include studies of bearing heat transfer, dry lubrication of slip rings, ion plating of lead lubricating films for ball bearings and the effect of conformity on bearing performance.

Because of the increased programme, the laboratory's 'clean room' will be enlarged to give better access to test equipment and to accommodate facilities used in bearing preparation.

Further backing to software products scheme

The Department of Industry has raised the funding available to the software products scheme by a further £260,000.

Interest in software products was slow in developing at the start of the scheme and the early demand for funds was smaller than expected. Over the last 18 months the situation has been reversed. Because of this delayed demand a shortfall of income has been predicted over the next two-three years and so the additional funding has been approved.

The scheme makes funds available for development and initial marketing costs and there are now 15 supported projects.

Britain

The Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill

The Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill is currently passing through Committee stage in the House of Commons. Standing Committee D have debated the Bill for over 130 hours (55 sittings) but, finally, report stage and Third Reading now seem to be in sight. I hope that it will be possible for the Bill to receive Royal Assent by the end of July.

Under the provisions of the Bill two new Corporations will be established, British Aerospace and British Shipbuilders. The companies whose securities will vest in the respective Corporations are listed below. Following the precedents of the Iron and Steel Act 1967 and the National Enterprise Board, last year, we have set up Organising Committees to prepare for the respective vesting dates, which we hope to be in the late summer and to formulate the future strategy and structure of the industries. These Organising Committees are, in effect, the nucleus of the boards of the two Corporations. The Chairman of the Organising Committee for British Aerospace is the Rt. Hon. The Lord Beswick and the Chairman of the Organising Committee for British Shipbuilders is Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin.

Aerospace industry

As we explained during the Second Reading Debate on the Bill, this industry has undoubtably been successful and has a string of technological achievements that is second to none. However for all that it is certainly an industry which could achieve much more. If it were reorganised under unified control with common criteria and common objectives then instead of competing against ourselves as we do at present we should be free to fight for our place in the highly competitive world market. The country just cannot afford the luxury of two main airframe manufacturing groups any longer. As long ago as 1965 the Plowden Committee of Inquiry stated flatly that the Government should not seek artifically to maintain the present two group structure of the industry and recommended a merger. Over the past decade the private sector has, however, consistently failed to bring together the airframe and guided weapon interests of these companies, and it will only be through the reorganisation, which public ownership will bring about, that the essential improvement in efficiency and productivity will be achieved. Similar arguments apply to the guided weapons sector.

It has also become increasing clear in the aerospace sector that private sector firms are not able to finance the huge scale of current projects from within their resources. The firms have had to come to the Government and that help has taken the shape of launching aid. Over the last 10 complete financial years the Government has paid out a total of nearly £1,700 million to the four companies which are being nationalised, some £280 million of which has been civil launching aid. These are figures which amply illustrate the heavy involvement of the Government with the industry and the equally heavy reliance of the industry on that involvement. Public ownership will enable accountability of the heavy government expenditure in the industry to rest at the strategic, corporate level. The substance of accountability will be maintained and improved without the hampering detailed intervention and monitoring necessary in the past.

Shipbuilding industry

Many of the arguments behind the nationalisation of the aerospace industry apply equally to shipbuilding as well. Our plans to nationalise shipbuilding, shiprepair and the manufacture of slow speed diesel marine engines must also be viewed against the record and problems of these industries. The industry has failed to maintain the strong position it had after the war and is not now generally competitive by world standards. This is in spite of the fact that the industry has received exclusive of the normal assistance available to industry generally, some £300 million of government money over the past 10 years. Although some modernisation has been carried out and the facilities of one or two yards stand comparison with any, there are still shipyards with totally inadequate facilities. New investment per man in 1971 was, compared with the UK, twice as high in Germany, five times as high in Japan and seven times as high in Sweden. On shiprepair the report on the industry prepared by PA Management Consultants Ltd. and published in June 1974 made clear that unless there is modernisation of facilities some 2,000 jobs could be lost by 1980. The report also made clear that insufficient finance will be forthcoming from the industry and this will need to be supplemented by public funds.

The British Shipbuilding Industry has in the past year entered its most difficult period since the 1930s. The early life of the new corporation will be extremely difficult but it is doubtful if without a fresh start under public ownership this country's shipbuilding industry, which gives direct employment to 70,000, would even remain in being as a viable entity.

Industrial democracy

A new spirit in industrial relations is essential if these industries are to have a successful record in public ownership. We believe that those in both industries must play their full part in their future development and that by releasing the energies and loyalties of the workforce, public ownership will enable the industry to compete more effectively in world markets. Industrial democracy is the key to this change. Of course the Government is committed to promoting Industrial Democracy throughout all industry. At the moment the Bullock Committee is considering the whole question of industrial democracy in the private sector and the Government itself is investigating ways of expanding worker participation in the existing nationalised industries. However although these inquiries will obviously affect the two Corporations, the Bill, as drafted, gives industrial democracy a new prominence, making it a duty of the Corporations themselves to have full regard to the need to promote industrial democracy. Moreover, after debates in Standing Committee we have been consulting the interested parties as to how these provisions can be still further strengthened to ensure that the new Corporations give full weight to the views of their workforce. As a basic principle, however, we are opposed to any idea that a particular system of employee representation should somehow be imposed on the Corporations. We are committed to industrial *democracy* and this means that what is arranged should be derived from and reflect the views of the workforce; it should not be forced down their throats and we hope to see it grow in a strong and organic form.

A note by Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry

Flexibility

This determination to leave the industrial democracy arrangements to be worked out within the Corporations and not have Government impose a system is in line with another major characteristic of these proposed Corporations – the greater flexibility of the conditions under which the Corporations may operate. The Secretary of State's powers over the Corporations are also much more flexible than hitherto has been usual in nationalisation legislation; he for example will be able to alter the duties of the Corporations. This is designed to ensure that in a rapidly changing world, the Corporations are not left under totally inappropriate obligations. We have also made it clear that we want to give the new Corporations the greatest amount of freedom in decision-making as is consistent with public accountability and the government's own broad policy. We are totally against restrictions imposed on nationalised industries which put them at a disadvantage to any private company operating in the same sector. We have no intention of preventing nationalised industries taking up opportunities which make commercial sense just because these might lead them into activities whose scope was a little different from those in the original statute. The Corporations will have the same sort of commercial freedom as private sector companies, but subject of course to Ministerial control.

Anxieties have been expressed about the effects of the Corporations' trading practices on companies remaining in the private sector, which will be their competitors or suppliers. There is no question of the Corporations using their undoubted dominance in their respective sectors to discriminate unfairly against private sector companies. The Corporations will, as manufacturing concerns, be subject to the Fair Trading Act 1973 and could be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commissions; they will also be subject to stringent financial regimes and will have rigorous financial objectives requiring them to earn a particular rate of return on their capital.

Compensation

In fulfilment of our commitment to pay fair compensation for these companies – and this means fair to both the shareholders and the taxpayer – the Bill provides for compensation to be paid on the basis of Stock Exchange values. Listed securities will be valued on the basis of their average quotation during the six months up to the February 1974 Election; unlisted securities will be valued as if they had been listed during the same period. We believe these compensation arrangements provide a fair and workable method of determining compensation and that the compensation terms will provide valuations fair both to shareholders and taxpayers.

Existing contractual obligations

Throughout the progress of our nationalisation proposals we have been at pains to ensure that the actual taking of these companies into public ownership did not harm the industries and those who worked in them. We are determined that the transition should be achieved with as little disruption as possible. Therefore existing contractual obligations remain binding.

Industrial policy

The proposals for the shipbuilding and aircraft industries should not, of course, be viewed in isolation but as part of our programme to instigate and encourage new investment, to restore British industry to a competitive position in world and home markets. These two great industries are part of the heart of British industry and the improvement which nationalisation will bring to their performance is an essential component of our industry recovery.

COMPANIES WHOSE SECURITIES ARE TO VEST IN BRITISH AEROSPACE

British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.
Hawker Siddeley Aviation Ltd.
Hawker Siddeley Dynamics Ltd.
Scottish Aviation Ltd.

COMPANIES WHOSE SECURITIES ARE TO VEST IN BRITISH SHIPBUILDERS

Shipbuilding companies

Appledore Shipbuilders Ltd.
Austin and Pickersgill Ltd.
Brooke Marine Ltd.
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd.
Clelands Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.
Ferguson Brothers (Port Glasgow) Ltd.
The Goole Shipbuilding and Repairing Co. Ltd.
Govan Shipbuilders Ltd.
Hall Russell and Co. Ltd.
Lithgows Ltd.
Robb Caledon Shipbuilders Ltd.
Scott and Sons (Bowling) Ltd.
Scotts' Shipbuilding Co. Ltd.
Smith's Dock Co. Ltd.
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.
Swan Hunter Shipbuilders Ltd.
Vickers Shipbuilding Group Ltd.
Vosper Thornycroft Ltd.
Yarrow (Shipbuilders) Ltd.

Shiprepairing companies

Brigham and Cowan Ltd.
Bristol Channel Ship Repairers Ltd.
J. B. Howie Ltd.
The Humber Graving Dock and Engineering Co. Ltd.
The London Graving Dock Co. Ltd.
The Mercantile Dry Dock Co. Ltd.
The Middle Docks and Engineering Co. Ltd.
R. and H. Green and Silley Weir Ltd.
Scott Lithgow Drydocks Ltd.
Swan Hunter Shiprepairers Tyne Ltd.
The Wallsend Slipway and Engineering Co. Ltd.
Western Shiprepairers Ltd.

Companies manufacturing slow speed diesel marine engines

Barclay, Curle and Co. Ltd.
George Clark and NEM Ltd.
Hawthorn Leslie (Engineers) Ltd.
John G. Kincaid and Co. Ltd.
Scotts' Engineering Co. Ltd.

Training companies

The Scott Lithgow Training Centre Ltd.
Swan Hunter Training and Safety Co. Ltd.
Yarrow (Training) Ltd.

Britain

International air cargo

A review of the development of the air cargo market into and out of Britain. This review coincides with the Eighth International Forum for Air Cargo which is being held next week at the Royal Aeronautical Society, and the Air Cargo '76 Exhibition, being held at Heathrow Airport. The statistics in this article are compiled by the Department of Industry and will be published in full at a later date as part of the normal series of UK trade by air articles in Trade and Industry.

Containerised freight being loaded into a Boeing 747 freight hold below the passenger cabins.

The recent boom in air cargo traffic is slowing down slightly although last year's rate of growth is still greater than 20 per cent as far as exports from the UK are concerned. For imports the slowing down was more marked – 49.3 per cent growth in 1973, 30.5 per cent in 1974, and only 3.8 per cent in 1975 – although the proportion of air imports to total imports rose by 0.4 per cent (see Table 1).

These figures, produced by the Department of Industry, and published here for the first time, will no doubt add interest from the British point of view to the discussions at next week's Eighth International Forum on Air Cargo, which will be held at the Royal Aeronautical Society, Hamilton Place, London, from 10-12 May. The meeting is being organised by a group of United States aeronautical institutions and is normally held at a United States venue. This year, however, the co-hosts are The Royal Aeronautical Society and British Airways. At the same time as the forum is taking place, an air cargo exhibition is being held at Heathrow airport where carriers, agents, and equipment suppliers will be showing their wares.

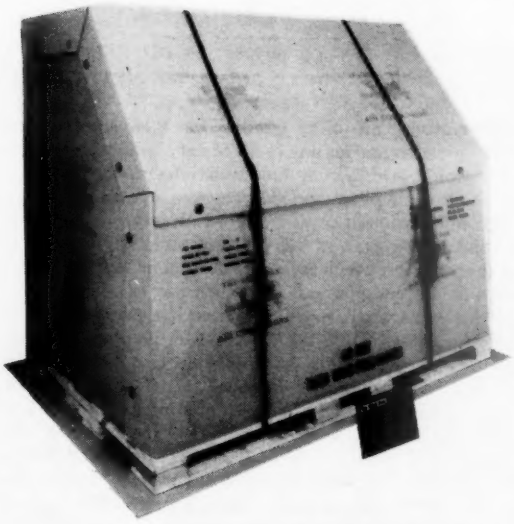
To get the air cargo industry in perspective it is worth looking at the 10-year run of figures between 1965 and 1975, which shows that the value of air cargo increased nearly eight times in the period, from £425.2 million to £3,383.2 million, while the percentage almost doubled from 8.7 per cent to 17 per cent. This percentage was in fact

TABLE 1 Value of air trade compared with total trade 1960-1975

	Exports					Imports				
Year	Total £m fob	Percentage change on previous year	By air £m fob	Percentage average on previous year	Air exports as percentage of total exports	Total £m cif	Percentage change on previous year	By air £m cif	Percentage change on previous year	Air imports as percentage of total imports
1960	3,788.8	—	225.3	—	5.9	4,655.3	—	214.0	—	4.6
1961	3,954.6	4.4	272.7	21.0	6.9	4,546.4	−2.3	253.3	18.4	5.6
1962	4,062.2	2.7	298.8	9.6	7.4	4,627.7	1.8	270.7	6.9	5.8
1963	4,364.9	7.5	334.8	12.0	7.7	4,983.4	7.7	305.8	13.0	6.1
1964	4,565.0	4.6	339.0	1.3	7.4	5,696.1	14.3	376.3	23.1	6.6
1965	4,900.8	7.4	425.2	25.4	8.7	5,751.1	1.0	438.3	16.5	7.6
1966	5,255.4	7.2	550.7	29.5	10.5	5,949.4	3.4	545.6	24.5	9.2
1967	5,229.6	−0.5	606.2	10.1	11.6	6,436.7	8.2	641.5	17.6	10.0
1968	6,433.9	23.0	831.5	37.2	12.9	7,897.5	22.7	929.4	44.9	11.8
1969	7,339.4	14.1	978.9	17.7	13.3	8,315.0	5.3	1,082.6	16.5	13.0
1970	8,061,1	9.8	1,095.1	11.9	13.6	9,036.8	8.7	1,220.2	12.7	13.5
1971	9,181.4	13.9	1,304.1	19.1	14.2	9,821.1	8.7	1,335.4	9.4	13.6
1972	9,745.8	6.1	1,539.4	18.0	15.8	11,138.3	13.4	1,584.9	18.7	14.2
1973	12,454.3	27.8	2,110.9	37.1	16.9	15,839.8	42.2	2,365.6	49.3	14.9
1974	16,600.1	33.3	2,913.6	38.0	17.6	23,283.5	47.0	3,086.3	30.5	13.3
1975	19,929.2	20.1	3,383.2	16.1	17.0	24,163.2	3.8	3,307.2	7.2	13.7

Tri-Wall Pak Air Cargo Containers —approved by IATA/ATA.

Tri-Wall, along with two of their fabricators (Oakhanger Timber Products Ltd and Tri-Corr Containers Ltd), can supply a full range of IATA and ATA approved containers from CO3-6T to COS-6T. The containers are all designed to meet the requirements of wide bodied jets and larger freight aircraft.



Contoured front loading container CO3-6T.

Lower deck container (LDK) currently under development.

The range of Tri-Wall Pak® containers fall into three primary configurations: Rectangular/Front Loading; Rectangular/Top Loading and Contoured/Back Loading.

The material used for these containers is lightweight, heavy duty, weather resistant, triple fluted, corrugated fibreboard. A widely accepted and reliable substitute for wooden or metal containers.

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Technical development facilities are also available.

Oakhanger Timber Products Ltd., Soke Road, Silchester, Reading, Berks RG7 2PF. Tel: Reading 700601. Telex: 847023.

Tri-Corr Containers Limited, Pickering Street, Loose, Nr. Maidstone, Kent. Tel: Maidstone 44444. Telex: 965036.

Tri-Wall Pak

Tri-Wall Containers Limited, One Mount Street, London W1Y 5AA. Telephone: 01-493 4311. Telex: 265382.

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(TI 14)

TABLE 2 Commodity composition of exports by value

Selected divisions		1974 Total £m fob	1974 By air £m fob	1974 Air exports as a percentage of Total air exports	1974 Air exports as a percentage of Total exports	1975 Total £m fob	1975 By air £m fob	1975 Air exports as a percentage of Total air exports	1975 Air exports as a percentage of Total exports
00	Live animals	45.4	26.4	0.9	58.1	53.4	24.8	0.7	46.4
21	Hides and skins	91.6	27.4	0.9	29.9	102.4	28.8	0.9	28.1
51	Chemical elements and compounds	730.4	44.0	1.5	6.0	653.7	46.9	1.4	7.2
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	301.2	126.9	4.4	42.1	373.0	154.1	4.6	41.3
55	Essential oils and perfumes	145.5	8.2	0.3	5.6	169.4	7.2	0.2	4.3
61	Leather and leather manufactures nes	94.4	31.0	1.1	32.8	98.8	33.5	1.0	33.9
62	Rubber manufactures nes	166.5	7.2	0.2	4.3	221.2	8.2	0.2	3.7
65	Textile yarn, etc	745.1	64.1	2.2	8.6	698.2	60.0	1.8	8.6
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	1,060.0	556.0	19.1	52.5	1,177.9	659.6	19.5	56.0
68	Non-ferrous metals	689.4	164.3	5.6	23.8	538.9	92.0	2.7	17.1
69	Manufactures of metal nes	470.2	28.4	1.0	6.0	617.1	36.0	1.1	5.8
71	Machinery, other than electric	3,082.9	648.5	22.3	21.0	4,254.5	750.9	22.2	17.6
72	Electrical machinery	1,131.6	331.5	11.4	29.3	1,529.4	447.8	13.2	29.3
73	Transport equipment	1,767.4	218.5	7.5	12.4	2,365.2	251.4	7.4	10.6
84	Clothing	229.7	96.7	3.3	42.1	265.4	100.8	3.0	38.0
85	Footwear	47.2	7.9	0.3	16.7	52.9	7.5	0.2	14.2
86	Professional and scientific instruments	424.3	141.1	4.8	33.3	518.0	169.6	5.0	32.7
89	Miscellaneous manufactures nes	659.4	195.4	6.7	29.6	782.1	232.2	6.9	29.7
	All other goods	4,718.0	190.1	6.5	4.0	5,457.7	271.9	8.0	5.0
	Total	16,600.1	2,913.6	100	17.6	19,929.2	3,383.2	100	17.0

International Air Cargo

continued

higher in 1974, and fell back 0.6 per cent in 1975 possibly because rapidly rising costs, and consequently higher freight charges increased the differential between sea and air cargo costs to the detriment of the latter. Experience in the past seems to show that such setbacks are overcomewith in one or two years when the differentials reassert themselves. This can be seen in the imports section of Table 1, where in 1974 the percentage total dropped from 14.9 to 13.3 per cent, but in the following year began to recover.

The kinds of goods usually carried by air are easily identifiable from Tables 2 and 3, where the largest single category, at 22.2 per cent of exports, is non-electric machinery, with division 66, mainly diamonds, just behind at 19.5 per cent. Diamonds are the epitomy of one of the staple categories of air cargo in that they have high value and low volume. Other typical groups would be those commodities which are time critical, such as live animals, and time critical in the sense that they are required urgently, such as fresh food and flowers, and fashion goods.

Air cargo services countrywide

The question which readers of *Trade and Industry* should be asking themselves is whether they are taking advantage of the services which air cargo carriers can offer; whether for their company air cargo would be cost-effective for any or all of the product range; if using air transport would give them a marketing advantage.

It is easy to think of air cargo as being centred almost exclusively on the large international airports such as Heathrow, Gatwick, Manchester and Prestwick, and this misconception in itself may dissuade some exporters. But every region in the UK is well covered by both airlines and air cargo agents. To take two extremes: two airlines operate out of Exeter Airport, Devon to five overseas and three internal destinations; in the far north, where there must be more airports per head of population than anywhere else in the UK, Aberdeen has two airlines serving three overseas and 10 internal destinations.

There are no less than 121 airlines offering air cargo space which have offices in the UK and the majority of these run services to and from Britain. Of this number, 33 have aircraft available for specific freight charters as opposed to scheduled freight services which are operated by the very large airlines and some specialist cargo carriers. In addition most airlines carry freight in the holds of their passenger aircraft.

This 'spare' capacity on passenger services is a natural consequence of the trend towards building wide-bodied aircraft, where the main floor is located relatively high in the fuselage 'tube' so that the point of maximum width coincides with a point some half-way up a passenger seat. This gives a tremendous volume of space in the lower part of the curved fuselage below the main floor. The space is there on smaller aircraft too, of course, but the scale of wide-body jets is such

TABLE 3 Commodity composition of imports by value

Selected divisions		1974 Total £m cif	1974 By air £m cif	1974 Air imports as a percentage of Total air imports	1974 Air imports as a percentage of Total imports	1975 Total £m cif	1975 By air £m cif	1975 Air imports as a percentage of Total air imports	1975 Air imports as a percentage of Total imports
00	Live animals	76.9	14.7	0.5	19.1	108.0	9.4	0.3	8.7
21	Hides and skins	106.4	41.4	1.3	38.9	106.8	36.1	1.1	33.8
51	Chemical elements and compounds	716.8	71.1	2.3	9.9	672.3	52.7	1.6	7.8
54	Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	92.2	44.6	1.4	48.4	97.1	47.3	1.4	48.7
55	Essential oils and perfumes	76.2	11.9	0.4	15.6	68.6	11.2	0.3	16.3
61	Leather and leather manufactures nes	60.5	8.9	0.3	14.7	68.9	10.2	0.3	14.8
62	Rubber manufactures nes	87.7	7.6	0.2	8.7	97.2	6.8	0.2	7.0
65	Textile yarn, etc	688.2	65.8	2.1	9.6	682.7	66.0	2.0	9.7
66	Non-metallic mineral manufactures nes	982.6	708.9	23.0	72.1	1,077.8	812.2	24.6	75.4
68	Non-ferrous metals	1,008.6	57.2	1.9	5.7	820.2	132.6	4.0	16.2
69	Manufactures of metal nes	286.7	40.0	1.3	14.0	332.3	38.0	1.1	11.4
71	Machinery other than electric	1,959.2	649.3	21.0	33.1	2,297.9	703.7	21.3	30.6
72	Electrical machinery	1,010.0	405.1	13.1	40.1	1,045.3	424.3	12.8	40.6
73	Transport equipment	857.8	65.4	2.1	7.6	1,118.9	94.2	2.8	8.4
84	Clothing	402.4	81.5	2.6	20.3	505.1	112.7	3.4	22.3
85	Footwear	109.3	12.4	0.4	11.3	123.3	13.1	0.4	10.6
86	Professional and scientific instruments	377.7	179.9	5.8	47.6	446.7	206.9	6.3	46.3
89	Miscellaneous manufactures nes	642.5	212.9	6.9	33.1	645.5	206.8	6.3	32.0
	All other goods	13,741.8	407.7	13.2	3.0	13,848.7	323.2	9.8	2.3
	Total	23,283.5	3,086.3	100	13.3	24,163.2	3,307.2	100	13.7

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(TI 5)

International Air Cargo
continued

that in aircraft such as the Boeing 747, TriStar, DC-10 and Airbus, the holds can accommodate more freight than some specialised cargo aircraft could carry 15 years ago. The restriction on these passenger aircraft is in the door sizes which are not as large as those on specialist cargo aircraft.

Weights are not so critical – the standard passenger DC-10 for example has the capacity for 15,000kg of freight in three cargo compartments. This compares with the total cargo capacity of the Boeing 707-320C (the popular second-generation all-cargo aircraft) of 34,000kg. This alone puts the capacity situation into perspective.

An analysis of Table 4, below, shows that surprisingly the nearest destinations are those with the highest percentage of air exports. The whole of western Europe, for example, accounts for 50.2 per cent of all air exports, with the USA and Canada taking 22.6 per cent. Viewed as a percentage of total exports however the figures are a little less straightforward, with western Europe showing 35.7 per cent air exports and the North American market taking 29.1 per cent. Only Switzerland receives more than half of UK exports by air, at 56.3 per cent, with Israel closely following at 46.3 per cent.

On the import side the trade pattern is basically similar as far as the overall split in the air cargo market, but seen as a percentage of total imports the air figures appear to show a more sensible pattern from the point of view of distance travelled and time saved over surface transport. For example only 9.5 per cent of British imports from the EEC come by air, while 28.7 per cent of imports from North America arrive that way. The Soviet Union and South Africa also have high percentages (44.9 and 47.8 respectively), with the diamond trade being particularly relevant in the latter case. Sierra Leone, which has an insignificant proportion in the export table, actually sends 88.1 per cent of its exports to Britain by air; again this traffic is mainly in diamonds.

Palletised cargo waiting to be loaded on a Merchantman aircraft.

While an exporter can go direct to an airline to arrange his cargo matters he would be well advised to consult one of the 1,000 or so

TABLE 4 Exports to, and imports from, selected countries by value

	Exports 1974				1975				Imports 1974				1975			
			Air exports as a percentage of:				Air exports as a percentage of:				Air imports as a percentage of:				Air imports as a percentage of:	
Selected countries	Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Total exports to country	Total air exports	Total £m fob	By air £m fob	Total exports to country	Total air exports	Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Total imports from country	Total air imports	Total £m cif	By air £m cif	Total imports from country	Total air imports
EEC	5,516.2	876.2	15.9	30.1	6,419.5	981.7	15.3	29.0	7,729.8	733.2	9.5	23.8	8,804 6	811.5	9.2	24.5
Western Germany	1,025.9	197.5	19.3	6.8	1,303.6	239.8	18.4	7.1	1,901.7	243.4	12.8	7.9	1,999.4	237.6	11.9	7.2
Netherlands	982.9	75.4	7.7	2.6	1,115.3	89.4	8.0	2.6	1,637.0	76.1	4.6	2.5	1,872.9	78.7	4.2	2.4
France	914.1	182.3	19.9	6.3	1,164.5	204.0	17.5	6.0	1,349.2	203.0	15.0	6.6	1,627.8	233.9	14.4	7.1
Belgium and Luxembourg	835.7	229.1	27.4	7.9	922.3	252.3	27.4	7.5	731.4	86.9	11.9	2.8	952.2	129.8	13.6	3.9
Irish Republic	820.3	77.4	9.4	2.7	907.4	74.6	8.2	2.2	809.9	44.8	5.5	1.5	921.0	45.9	5.0	1.4
Italy	509.9	90.9	17.8	3.1	563.3	96.1	17.1	2.8	723.5	63.3	8.7	2.1	809.7	68.1	8.4	2.1
Denmark	427.4	23.8	5.6	0.8	443.2	25.4	5.7	0.8	577.1	15.6	2.7	0.5	621.7	17.4	2.8	0.5
Rest of Western Europe	2,952.5	584.9	19.8	20.1	3,371.5	707.4	21.0	20.9	3,469.1	577.1	16.6	18.7	3,565.8	572.6	16.1	17.3
Sweden	723.2	57.6	8.0	2.0	825.7	56.6	6.9	1.7	929.1	31.7	3.4	1.0	885.8	32.8	3.7	1.0
Switzerland	672.7	378.7	56.3	13.0	805.0	484.2	60.1	14.3	764.7	431.6	56.4	14.0	737.0	442.8	60.1	13.4
Spain	260.0	39.1	15.0	1.3	294.8	43.5	14.8	1.3	261.8	13.3	5.1	0.4	277.8	16.2	5.8	0.5
Portugal	185.6	19.7	10.6	0.7	157.6	14.6	9.3	0.4	236.2	51.6	21.8	1.7	201.1	41.2	20.5	1.2
Austria	153.1	19.5	12.7	0.7	165.0	19.6	11.9	0.6	205.2	14.9	7.3	0.5	204.1	12.9	6.3	0.4
North America	2,266.7	659.7	29.1	22.6	2,332.5	639.1	27.4	18.9	3,249.0	931.7	28.7	30.2	3,207.9	944.8	29.5	28.6
USA	1,764.1	554.2	31.4	19.0	1,770.0	524.4	29.6	15.5	2,249.1	840.4	37.4	27.2	2,328.6	858.0	36.8	25.9
Canada	488.1	105.5	21.6	3.6	538.5	114.7	21.3	3.4	984.3	80.6	8.2	2.6	856.0	86.8	10.1	2.6
Other developed	1,698.7	230.4	13.6	7.9	1,879.4	244.7	13.0	7.2	1,684.5	333.3	19.8	10.8	1,854.9	390.4	21.0	11.8
Australia	599.1	63.9	10.7	2.2	631.5	66.9	10.6	2.0	311.5	11.3	3.6	0.4	279.5	10.9	3.9	0.3
South Africa	525.1	55.0	10.5	1.9	684.8	66.1	9.7	2.0	555.1	265.5	47.8	8.6	636.1	314.3	49.4	9.5
Japan	319.1	99.1	31.1	3.4	309.4	96.1	31.1	2.8	570.1	55.1	9.7	1.8	671.8	63.2	9.4	1.9
Oil exporters	1,210.0	156.1	12.9	5.4	2,278.4	330.0	14.5	9.8	3,784.8	47.9	1.3	1.6	3,274.0	48.8	1.5	1.5
Iran	279.2	25.5	9.1	0.9	494.7	45.9	9.3	1.4	513.3	3.9	0.8	0.1	700.9	6.6	0.9	0.2
Nigeria	222.4	26.1	11.7	0.9	512.4	84.5	16.5	2.5	368.3	2.4	0.7	0.1	310.2	3.2	1.0	0.1
Saudi Arabia	119.6	28.2	23.6	1.0	199.8	49.5	24.8	1.5	1,178.3	11.7	1.0	0.4	856.6	7.8	0.9	0.2
Other developing	2,380.9	365.7	15.4	12.6	2,923.2	446.0	15.3	13.2	2,591.1	272.6	10.5	8.8	2,665.6	348.7	13.1	10.5
Israel	219.2	101.5	46.3	3.5	237.2	102.7	43.3	3.0	78.7	11.3	14.4	0.4	91.3	13.4	14.7	0.4
Hong Kong	156.8	19.9	12.5	0.7	159.5	31.1	19.5	0.9	292.6	34.1	11.7	1.1	307.0	49.1	16.0	1.5
Singapore	153.6	19.0	12.4	0.7	157.1	27.0	17.2	0.8	74.8	14.2	19.0	0.5	64.6	15.7	24.3	0.5
Brazil	142.9	25.7	18.0	0.9	160.9	25.0	15.5	0.7	195.4	8.5	4.4	0.3	174.9	9.4	5.4	0.3
India	126.8	25.6	20.2	0.9	164.5	36.1	21.9	1.1	203.9	50.3	24.7	1.6	237.1	94.8	40.0	2.9
Sierra Leone	18.7	1.3	7.0	0.0	21.2	1.6	7.5	0.0	41.9	36.9	88.1	1.2	32.6	26.6	81.6	0.8
Centrally planned economies	514.7	40.5	7.9	1.4	665.9	34.2	5.1	1.0	751.3	190.5	25.4	6.2	752.8	190.5	25.3	5.8
Soviet Union	109.7	3.1	2.8	0.1	210.3	3.7	1.8	0.1	395.5	177.6	44.9	5.8	408.4	180.0	44.1	5.4
Total selected countries	12,757.2	2,544.6	19.9	87.3	14,919.5	2,875.4	19.3	85.0	18,139.6	2,880.0	15.9	93.3	19,066.1	3,097.1	16.2	93.6
All other countries	3,782.6	369.0	9.8	12.7	4,950.8	507.8	10.3	15.0	5,119.9	206.3	4.0	6.7	5,059.6	210.1	4.2	6.4
Low value trade	60.3				58.9				24.0				37.5			
Grand total	16,600.1	2,913.6	17.6	100	19,929.2	3,383.2	17.0	100	23,283.5	3,086.3	13.3	100	24,163.2	3,307.2	13.7	100

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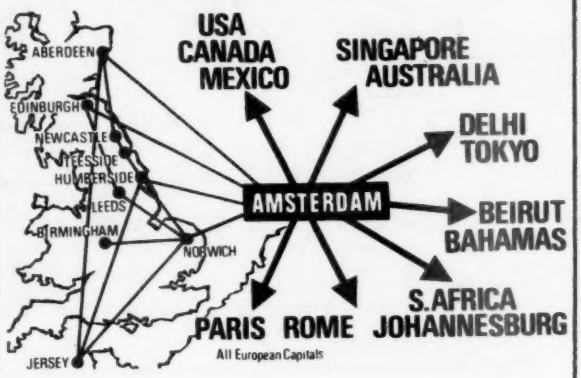

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(TI 2)

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(TI 11)

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(TI 1)

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International Air Cargo

continued

forwarding agents in the UK. The absolute basic role of the agent should be to provide the following services: booking space; route planning; documentation; export packing; insurance; warehousing; collection and delivery, and groupage or consolidation.

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(TI 6)

Parliament

Monday, 26 April

UK balance of trade

Mr. Dennis Canavan (West Stirlingshire) and Mr. Michael Neubert (Havering, Romford) asked for the latest figures for the UK balance of trade.

Mr. Dell answered: 'The early part of this year has seen a continuation of the reduction in our visible trade deficit which took place in 1975. In the first quarter, our visible trade deficit was £438 million seasonally adjusted, the lowest quarterly figure since before the quadrupling of oil prices at the end of 1973. Trade in non-oil goods was in surplus by £518 million in the same period, the highest figure recorded since 1970.'

Mr. Neil Marten (Banbury) asked: 'What is now the total trade deficit with the Common Market countries since Great Britain joined in January 1973?'

'The United Kingdom's visible trade deficit with the EEC, on a balance of payments basis, in 1973, 1974 and 1975 taken together was £5,547 million,' said Mr. Dell. *(See also UK trade with the EEC page 377)*

Trade with USSR

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked for the latest figures available for trade with the USSR and other Eastern European countries: and about further steps to encourage this trade.

Mr. Dell said that in the first three months of this year our exports to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe were £154 million, an increase of 20 per cent compared with the same period of 1975. 'We are continuing to promote actively the further expansion in our trade with these countries,' he added.

Mr. Peter Blaker (Blackpool South) asked: 'What is the value of contracts placed by the USSR at the latest convenient date under the £950 million line of credit arranged by the then Prime Minister in February 1975?'

'The total value of contracts placed under the Agreement to date is approximately £25 million and further substantial contracts are under discussion between UK exporters and Russian buyers,' said Mr. Dell.

Mr. Giles Shaw (Pudsey) and Mr. Tim Rathbone (Lewes) asked about the percentage of exports and imports to and from the Soviet Union carried in Russian ships and British ships, respectively.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'The percentage of the UK's seaborne exports to the Soviet Union by value, carried in Russian ships in 1975 was 78 per cent, and in British ships 18 per cent. The corresponding figures for the UK's seaborne imports from the Soviet Union by value in 1975 were 74 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively.'

Government services for exporters

Mr. Richard Luce (Shoreham) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would review the provision of Government assistance and facilities for small businesses involved in exporting.

'Government services for exporters are designed to cater for the needs of all exporters irrespective of size and are widely and successfully used by small businesses,' said Mr. Meacher. 'They are kept under review by the British Overseas Trade Board and if the Hon. Member has particular suggestions I would be glad to refer these to the Board.'

'Is the Secretary of State for Trade satisfied with the work undertaken by the British Overseas Trade Board's Fairs and Promotions branch on behalf of British exporters?' asked Mr. Geoffrey Pattle (Chertsey and Walton).

'Yes, Sir,' said Mr. Meacher.

EEC anti-dumping responsibilities

Mr. Roger Moate (Faversham) asked on what date responsibility for anti-dumping measures would be transferred to the EEC; and what relevant powers would remain with the UK thereafter.

Mr. Dell answered: 'Our remaining responsibilities for anti-dumping action will be transferred to the EEC Commission as from 1 July 1977. The UK will then have no power to take independent action in this field and all complaints of dumping will be dealt with by the commission.'

Export credits

Mr. Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked what action by the Secretary of State for Trade is proposed following the European Court of Justice decision that export credits fall within the competence of the EEC Commission.

Mr. Dell replied: 'The European Court of Justice's Opinion No. 1/75 was given in the context of a very narrow area of export credit activity, namely the extent to which the community (not the commission) has competence to enter into an OECD Understanding limiting official support for local costs associated with export projects. Action following the opinion is proceeding through normal community channels.'

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Lord Melchett
Leslie Huckfield

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

European Patent Convention

Mr. Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade proposes to ratify the European Patent Convention before the end of 1976.

'I agree that it is important for UK to ratify the European Patent Convention before the end of the year,' replied Mr. Dell. 'For this purpose legislation is required and I will introduce this as soon as circumstances permit.'

Company law

Mr. John Cockcroft (Nantwich) asked if further amendments to company law would be made in advance of the Report from the Bullock Committee.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered that a Bill to deal with certain urgent company law problems was introduced in the House of Lords on 2 March. 'I have no plans to introduce further amendments to company law in the present session,' he said.

London and Counties Securities Group

Mr. Dennis Skinner (Bolsover) asked what further action is being taken arising out of the publication of the London and Counties Securities Group Ltd. report by the Department of Trade.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied that the Companies (No. 2) Bill contains provisions relevant to this report, particularly those designed to strengthen the position of auditors. Other matters dealt with in the report would be considered as part of the general review of company law.

Slater Walker Securities

Mr. Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) asked when the accountant's report into Slater Walker Securities Ltd. was expected.

'I have recently received the final parts of

the report by independent accountants, appointed by the company,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'These are in draft, and the information at present available is being studied by the department.'

Court Line

Mr. Terry Walker (Kingswood) asked for a statement on the repayments to Court Line creditors.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The realisation and distribution of the assets of the Court Line companies in compulsory liquidation is a matter for the respective liquidators, appointed by and answerable to the court. I understand that the liquidators have paid the preferential claims in full in some cases, including Court Line Ltd., Clarksons Holidays Ltd., and Halcyon Holidays Ltd. I understand further, however, that the liquidators are not at present able to indicate what dividends may be paid to ordinary unsecured creditors. They hope, however, to make an announcement about a first distribution on Clarksons Holidays Ltd. during the course of the next few months.'

Import of paper products

Mr. John Ovenden (Gravesend) asked when the Secretary of State for Trade expects to commence discussions with the Scandinavian Governments on the review of the duty free quota system for the import of paper products.

'I expect these discussions to commence in May, but no firm dates have yet been arranged,' said Mr. Meacher.

Japanese cars

Mr. Hal Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would have further talks with the Japanese Government and motor industry in the light of the number of Japanese cars registered in the UK in the first quarter of 1976.

'I have at present no plans for talks with Japanese ministers,' said Mr. Dell. 'But the British motor industry are already in contact with their Japanese counterparts about current levels of car imports from Japan; and are also in close touch with my department.'

Car imports and exports

'Is the Secretary of State for Trade satisfied with the ratio between car imports and car exports in the United Kingdom?' asked Mr. Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex).

'No, Sir,' said Mr. Meacher. 'The industry is, however, aware of the urgent need to improve its performance and is making a determined attempt to overcome its problems.'

Imports of washing machines

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) inquired about allegations of dumping of Italian manufactured washing machines in the UK home market, and Mr. Bruce George (Walsall South) asked how many washing machines have been imported from Italy.

Mr. Meacher said: 'Some 365,000 domestic washing machines were imported into the UK from Italy during the 12 months ending February 1976.

'Up to now my department has received no application from the industry for anti-dumping action. Any case involving Italy would be a matter for the EEC commission by my department would be ready to give the industry any help and advice it can.'

Imported garments

Mr. Bob Cryer (Keighley) asked: 'What are the figures for imported garments in 1975 and to the latest available date?'

'£487 million cif in 1975 and £154 million cif during the first quarter,' said Mr. Meacher.

Imports of steel

Mr. Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked for the level of steel sheet imports during the last year for which figures are available.

Mr. Meacher said that nearly 1 million metric tons were imported in 1975.

Imports of light bulbs for motor vehicles

Mr. Edwin Wainwright (Dearne Valley) asked: 'How many light bulbs intended for use as replacements in motor vehicles have been imported over each of the past three years; what was the cost in each case in £ sterling; and what are the names of the countries involved?'

'Figures for bulbs intended as replacements are not available,' said Mr. Meacher. 'Total imports of bulbs under 28 volts for motor vehicles in 1973, 1974 and 1975 were 22, 28 and 34 million, respectively, valued at £1.7, £2.5 and £2.5 million cif. Principal suppliers were Hungary, Hong Kong and the Netherlands.'

Imports of sandals

Mr. Robert Boscawen (Wells) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would consider reopening discussions with the Czechoslovakian, Polish and Romanian governments in order to obtain inclusion of sandals for men, women and children in the arrangements for voluntary restraint on footwear exports to the UK.

'Until very recently I was not aware that the industry was concerned about imports of leather sandals from Eastern Europe,' said Mr. Meacher. 'I will be investigating the position further but on present evidence can see no grounds for extending the existing voluntary restraint arrangements with Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania to include leather sandals.'

Tourism

Mr. Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked for the number of bodies, other than state-sponsored organisations, consulted about the Government's future tourism policy.

Mr. Meacher replied: 'In the past 12 months direct discussions have been held by my department with seven such bodies, besides certain local authorities, on various aspects of tourism policy. These meetings were held in July and December, on three occasions in February and more recently on 31 March last, in addition to more informal exchanges. The four statutory boards who are appointed to advise the department on the development of tourism consult extensively to that end.'

Airport strategy

Mr. Anthony Steen (Liverpool, Wavertree) asked when the Green Paper on the role of regional airports would be published.

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'Part 2 of the consultation document on Airport Strategy for Great Britain, dealing with regional airports, will be published within the next few weeks.'

Fishing industry

Mr. James Johnson (Kingston upon Hull West) asked what steps are being taken to implement the disciplinary report upon the fishing industry.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The report was unanimous and having considered the views expressed since its publication I still feel that the recommendations are justified and relevant and I would hope to implement them as soon as legislative time can be found.'

Central Pilotage Board

Mr. Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury) asked for the expected annual running cost of the projected Central Pilotage Board to shipping and to public funds, respectively.

'Something of the order of £200,000 a year which is about 1 per cent of the estimated current income from pilotage dues from which it would be financed,' said Mr. Clinton Davis.

Metrication

Mr. David Price (Eastleigh) asked when metrication was expected to be implemented in those areas of weights and measures for which the Secretary of State for Trade is legally responsible.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'Metrication in the merchant shipping area is expected to be completed by the end of 1979 and of import duties by the middle of 1977.'

Price of fish

Mr. Patrick Wall (Haltemprice) asked for a statement on the recent report on the price of fish.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The Price Commission Report on Prices and Margins in the Distribution of Fish was published on 13 April. As I said on 12 April in reply to my Hon. Friend, the Member for Kingston upon Hull Central (*Hansard* Vol. 909, Col. 394), I shall be discussing the report with the trade and welcome the views of Hon. Members with an interest in the subject.'

Tuesday, 27 April

Potato prices

Mr. Gwilym Roberts (Cannock) asked: 'What study has been made by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection of the evidence of the 400 per cent addition to potato prices in one year submitted to her by the honourable Member for Cannock; and if she will now reconsider her decision not to fix maximum prices for potatoes?'

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'I have carefully considered this evidence and have written to my Hon. Friend explaining why the Government continues to believe that fixing maximum prices for potatoes would not be in the consumers' best interests. This would stimulate consumption, while making the UK market less attractive to the imports which are essential to supplement the reduced UK stocks remaining from last season.'

Metrication Board

Questions on the constitution, officers and costs of the Metrication Board were asked by Mr. Arthur Lewis (Newham North West).

Mr. Fraser answered that the decision to set up the Metrication Board was reported to Parliament in a statement made by the Minister of Technology on 26 July 1968 (*Official Report* Volume 769: columns 1167-1171); the Board came into existence in May

1969. The decision was endorsed in the White Paper on Metrication of February 1972 (Cmnd 4880).

The members of the Board are appointed by the Secretary of State and are as follows:

Lord Orr-Ewing (Chairman)
Baroness White (Vice chairman)
P. J. L. Homan (Director)

M. A. Abrams	Miss D. D. Hyams
B. N. Baxter	D. M. Landau
Miss F. K. College	Professor M. L. McGlashan
E. Cust	H. P. Scanlon
D. H. Darbishire	Mrs. A. Stanley
D. C. Dewar	Mrs. J. Upward
J. M. Ferguson	
D. Hobman	

Wednesday, 28 April

Washing machine industry

Mr. Bruce George (Walsall South) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would consider further help to the washing machine industry in addition to the reduction in the VAT rate announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. Huckfield answered: 'The needs of the washing machine industry are being closely examined by representatives of management, unions, government and NEDO under the Government's Industrial Strategy, in the Working Group on domestic electrical appliances. The Government has already relaxed credit controls and significantly reduced the level of VAT. Requests for further assistance will be listened to sympathetically.'

Leeds-Bradford area

Mr. Giles Shaw (Pudsey) asked for statistics showing how many new industries have been established in the Leeds-Bradford area between 1960 and 1970 and since 1970, and how many new jobs created in these industries.

'Almost all manufacturing industries (Minimum List Headings of the Standard Industrial Classification) recorded some employment in the Leeds-Bradford area, in 1960 and in subsequent years,' said Mr. Williams.

'The following table gives details of new manufacturing establishments which have opened since 1960 in West Yorkshire, the smallest appropriate area for which such data is readily available. The geographical definition of the area to which the statistics refer changed slightly in 1966, and in 1972. The record from which the material is compiled includes establishments opened in both new and second-hand premises, except where movement to second-hand premises from other premises in the same travel-to-work area is involved. The record is not comprehensive for establishments with very small employment, and is also subject to revision for the most recent years.

'The employment figures quoted in the table as associated with the new establishments are the latest available, and are rounded to the nearest 500.'

MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS OPENED IN WEST YORKSHIRE

	New manufacturing establishments with an origin outside the area		All new manufacturing establishments	
	No.	Total employed (000s)	No.	Total employed (000s)
1960-65	7	0.5	7*	0.5*
1966-71	6	0.5	107	11.0
1972-75	9	0.5	57	3.0

* In the period 1960-65, data was only collected on establishments opening in an area, with an origin outside that area.

Mr. Shaw also asked how many new factories have been established in the Leeds-Bradford area since the M1 was completed to Leeds and since the M62 was opened between Leeds and Manchester.

Mr. Williams said: 'From 1 January 1969 to 31 December 1973, 107 new factories, and extensions, requiring industrial development certificates were completed in the Leeds and Bradford employment exchange areas.

'Between 1 January 1974 and 31 December 1975, 24 new factories, and extensions, requiring industrial development certificates were completed in the same areas.'

Mr. Shaw asked: 'How many advance factories were established by the Government in the Leeds-Bradford area between 1960 and 1970 and since 1970; and how many of these advance factories were occupied by firms and organisations previously situated beyond a 30-mile radius of the Leeds-Bradford area?'

'None,' said Mr. Williams, 'but five factories were announced by the Government for the area in November 1975 and building is expected to start in the autumn.'

EEC requirement for watermarking newsprint

Mr. Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) asked what representations have been made to the Secretary of State for Trade concerning the EEC decision to reintroduce watermarking of imported newsprint from 1 July.

Mr. Meacher answered: 'The EEC requirement for watermarking imported newsprint has, for the purpose of the community's annual duty-free tariff quota, been waived since the middle of 1974; the waiver is due to expire on 1 July 1976. In accordance with the wishes of most of the member states of the EEC, including the United Kingdom, the commission has recently proposed an extension of the waiver for the rest of 1976. My department has received support for such an extension from newspaper publishers in the UK.'

Thursday, 29 April

Inflation

Mr. Norman Lamont (Kingston upon Thames) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: 'Whether, pursuant to her written reply on 9 April 1976, Official Report, *column 343, (see also* Trade and Industry, *16 April, page 152), she was referring to the winter of 1976 or the winter of 1977?'*

Mr. Maclennan answered: 'When my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer said in his Budget Statement that we could still achieve our inflation target next winter he was referring to the coming winter, ie 1976/7.'

Referring to the same reply Mr. Lamont asked whether the forecast of the year on year rate of inflation was inclusive or exclusive of seasonal food.

'The Government's inflation target is based

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on the General Index of Retail Prices inclusive of seasonal food,' said Mr. Maclennan.

NEB investments

Mr. Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked for a list of the investments made by the National Enterprise Board since its inception.

Mr. Kaufman replied that Mr. Varley's reply of 5 April to the Member for Ormskirk (*Trade and Industry*, 16 April, page 146) outlined the investments made by the NEB to that date. 'Since then, as has been announced in the press, it has increased its (minority) shareholding in Brown Boveri Kent Ltd.,' he added.

Industrial investment in the North West

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry is satisfied with the current level of investment in industry in the North West.

'We shall continue to encourage industry to invest in the North West,' said Mr. Williams.

Mr. Kilroy-Silk also asked about the current level of industrial investment on Merseyside.

Mr. Williams said: 'We recognise Merseyside's needs and everything possible is being done to stimulate new industrial investment.'

British Film Authority

Mrs. Renee Short (Wolverhampton North East) inquired about progress in the setting up of the British Film Authority.

Mr. Dell replied: 'As indicated by my Rt. Hon. Friend the then Prime Minister in reply to Question by my Hon. Friend the Member for Leeds South East on 29 March, legislation will be required to establish a British Film Authority. Meanwhile, I am considering the appropriate composition of an interim committee to maintain progress.'

Friday, 30 April

Organising Committee for British Aerospace

Mrs. Hayman inquired about further appointments to the Organising Committee for British Aerospace.

Mr. Varley said: 'I have appointed Mr. Bernard Friend, lately chairman and managing director of Esso Chemicals UK Ltd., as a member of the Organising Committee. I intend in due course to appoint him as a fulltime member of British Aerospace with particular responsibility for finance.'

Consumer Credit Act

Mr. John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked if provision would be made for the lodging of objections by members of the public to the issue of licences under the Consumer Credit Act to credit holders, in a manner similar to the provisions for inquiries and objections to planning permits operated under town planning law.

Mr. Fraser said: 'Such a procedure would not be appropriate under the Consumer Credit Act but at any time any member of the public may bring to the attention of the Director General of Fair Trading any information that may appear relevant to the Director General's licensing decisions.'

Committee for Industrial Democracy

Questions were asked by Mr. Kenneth Warren (Hastings) on the report of the Industrial Democracy Committee.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'The chairman of the Committee, Lord Bullock, told my Rt. Hon. Friend the then Secretary of State, that the committee would make every effort to report within a year, that is to say by the end of 1976, this is still the position. The committee has held 12 meetings. The cost of producing the committee's report will be made known in due course.'

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

18 May 1976 Miscellaneous stores

Location: Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts.

Auctioneers: Arnold and Son (Dept L), 13 Market Place, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffs DE14 1HD. (tel: 0283 64657).

A large quantity of stores which include household furniture, electrical and electronic spares, aircraft components and ground equipment. Scrap textiles and rags, marquees and other tentage. Scrap metals, wooden and metal boxes, MT spares, tyres and batteries, engineering tools and equipment, tractors, trailers, binoculars, cameras etc.

24 May 1976 Textiles Lots 1 to 514
26 May 1976 Miscellaneous stores Lots 515 to 1583

Location: The Post House, Herbert Walker Avenue, Southampton, SO1 0HJ

Auctioneers: Richard Austin and Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants PO16 7AX. (tel: 03292 4211)

The lots which are lying at various depots in Hampshire include:
On 24 May – 9,000 blankets, greatcoats, raincoats, jerseys, trousers, 800 carpets, leather knee boots, foul weather coats, rags etc.
On 26 May – alternators, binoculars, boxes, compressors, cordage, electrical spares, generators, 10,000 jerricans, various tools, trolleys, tyres etc. 54 machine tools. A large quantity of household furniture including beds, bureaux, chairs, chests of drawers, steel and wooden wardrobes, various tables etc. and 10 Military chests.

Catalogues for the above sales which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc. are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

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Publications

Directory of International Statistics. United Nations Statistical Papers Series M, No. 56. (262 pages. Available from HMSO. 1975. £9.36. ISBN 0 11 904153 7.) This directory is a guide to international statistics and statistical services of the United Nations and specialised agencies. Its development has been prompted by the need for increased information which earlier publications of a similar nature cannot fully satisfy. The compilation is based on revised editions of two main publications: *A list of statistical series collected by International Organisations* and the *Directory of International Standards for Statistics*, both published by the UN Statistical Office. The directory is divided into four main parts, with information available as at 1973 in the first three parts and as at 1975 in part four. Part one is a description of international statistical services. The statistical responsibilities and organisation of the United Nations and specialised agencies, and that of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade are described individually in detail. Co-ordination within the United Nations System and technical assistance in promoting the development of national statistics are briefly surveyed. Statistical activities of international organisations outside the UN system are also described. Part two contains a detailed picture of international statistical series. Technical notes precede a comprehensive list, arranged by subject matter, of the series, citing the title, frequency, publishing body and the data-base number if the series is in machine-readable form. This is followed by a descriptive bibliography of recurrent statistical publications, arranged by organisations. Part three deals with international statistical methodology. This is subdivided into two sections. The first is an alphabetical list of concepts, classifications, standards and recommendations, and the second, is a comprehensive bibliography and description of the methodological publications, again arranged by organisations. Part four examines computerised international statistics. It begins with an inventory of data bases of economic and social statistics, arranged by subject and by organisation. A list of computer installations and a description of the International Computing Centre follows. The annex gives useful addresses of the UN Secretariat, UN bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations.

International Recommendations on Statistics of the Distributive Trades and Services. United Nations Statistical Papers, Series M, No. 57. (55 pages. Available from HMSO. 1975. £1.56. ISBN 0 11 904121 9.) At the United Nation's eighteenth session (1974), the Statistical Commission adopted recommendations for statistics of the distributive trades and services and requested the Secretary-General to issue them as the new international recommendations in the field. The present publication has been prepared in response to that request and constitutes an expanded and updated version of the 1958 edition of the *International Recommendations in Statistics of Distribution*. Following on from the introductory material the study examines the problems of the field in four main chapters. The first deals with the scope, coverage and units to be used, and includes a discussion of the treatment of ancillary units and secondary activities. Chapter two describes the characteristics of the statistical unit and its classification. Included in chapter three are two tables which list the items of data recommended for collection and the statistics recommended for publication. Separate recommendations are made for countries with developed statistics of the distributive trades and services and for countries in the process of developing their distributive trade statistics. The final chapter contains the definitions of the items of data recommended for collection and of the statistics recommended for publication. Those concerned with this subject should note that UK data is published, in an interim form, monthly in *Trade and Industry* and, as a substantive compilation, in the monthly and quarterly *Service and Distribution Business Monitors*. *The Census of Distribution and other Services 1971* is also published in the *Business Monitor* format: this publication will be replaced by an annual inquiry, publication details will appear in *Trade and Industry*.

A New Regional Policy for Europe. European Documentation, 1975/3. (15 pages. European Communities Commission. Available from HMSO. £0.25. ISBN 0 11 935212 5.) **The European Community's Financial System.** European Documentation, 1975/4. (35 pages. European Com-

Air separation unit for India

The main column of an air separation unit en route for Nangal, India. The column is passing Takhat Sri Keshgarh Sahib, 13 miles south of Nangal. Made by Cryoplants Ltd., Edmonton, part of BOC Ltd., the unit is now under construction and will supply oxygen and nitrogen to the Nangal fertiliser plant being built by the Fertiliser Corporation of India. The plant has a capacity of 24,000 Nm³/h of gaseous oxygen and 47,500 Nm³/h pure gaseous nitrogen.

munities Commission. Available from HMSO. £0.25. ISBN 0 11 935213 5.) The stated aim of these booklets, published in the series *European Documentation*, is the compilation of an authoritative reference work on European integration. Each booklet looks at various aspects of this subject, outlining both the current Community policy and the progress achieved so far. Each also contains a useful short bibliography relating to the subject covered. (A previous booklet in the series *The European Community and the developing countries* was reviewed in *Trade and Industry* for 16 January 1976, page 164.) The first booklet provides a short survey of Europe's regions, accompanied by maps illustrating population density and gross domestic product per head of population. It emphasises the variety of regional problems and briefly considers the community's contribution to solving them, prior to 1975, when its powers were comparatively limited. The year 1975 saw the introduction of a new policy centring on the European Regional Development Fund, which was to be distributed amongst member countries in order to render assistance to national priority areas. The Regional Policy Committee, which will compare and co-ordinate the regional policies and objectives for the community, was also a product of 1975. The study concludes by emphasising that the regional policy of the community is a complement to and not a replacement of the national policies of individual members and is designed to provide additional resources and co-ordination. The second booklet describes the historical development of the community's financial system up to 1975 when the 'own resources' system first came into operation, member states no longer making financial contributions to the Budget according to a strict system of apportionment, but transferring to the community all revenue from certain sources eg import levies derived from trade with non-member countries. The progress of the 1975 budget through the community's institutions is then outlined, followed by a detailed analysis of revenue and expenditure. Two separate financial institutions, the Development Fund and the European Investment Bank, are also described, but the study concludes by stressing the importance of a genuine unified budget to future community policies.

Tolley's stamp duties, by Sheila V. Masters. (82 pages. Tolley Publishing Co. Ltd., 44a High Street, Croydon, Surrey CR9 1UU. 1976. £3.75. ISBN 0 510 49007 7. A standing order can be placed for copies of future editions.) This is a new and concise account of stamp duty law and practice, designed for practitioners and others seeking a quick guide to the complex legislation on the subject. The law is stated as at 1 November 1975. The subject matter is divided into sections in alphabetical order, with cross references. Tables of statutes and of cases together with an index, serve as additional aids to finding particular items of legislation and case law. Separate sections deal with variations in Scotland and Ireland.

Taxation and Investment Incentives in the Caribbean Region. Published by the West India Committee, 18 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 0HP. (22 pages. 1976. £1.50.) This pamphlet outlines the types and levels of taxation and financial incentives for companies and individuals in 21 countries in the Caribbean region: Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Monserrat, Netherlands Antilles, St. Kitts/Nevis/Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Surinam, Trinidad and Tobago and the Turks and Caicos Islands. The entries for each country follow roughly the same pattern, beginning with the current rates of company tax, followed by rates of personal income tax, including allowances for dependants. Also included are import duties which affect commodities purchased by firms. Other forms of taxation are covered where appropriate, examples being stamp duties, employment tax, hotel occupancy tax and land tax. The main incentives for companies operating in the particular countries are also described. These frequently take the form of 'tax holidays', with a fixed period before a new firm's tax liability materialises, or a sliding scale with a low initial tax rate for new firms. Concessions on import duties on imported capital goods are also offered in some cases. In all, the pamphlet provides a useful basic checklist for potential investors in the Caribbean.

Croner's Metric Freight Reckoner, by Colin Barnes. (68 pages. Croner Publications Ltd., 46-50 Coombe Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 4QL. 1976. £1.50.) Although metrication has not yet officially replaced the Imperial system in the UK, shipping and exporting personnel and others in frequent contact with overseas markets now require a reliable means of metric freight assessment. The purpose of this new publication is to provide just such a means, whereby exporters can become better acquainted with freight calculations using cubic metres and tonnes. After a detailed exposition of how the main bulk of tables operate, the reckoner continues with the following sections: Imperial equivalents of cubic metres, tonnes and kilogrammes; cubic capacity in bulk; index of freight rates per tonne by weight; index of freight rates per cubic metre by measurement, and, to conclude this introductory section, freight adjustment tables for measurement and weight. The tables themselves provide computation for most freight and shipment problems and the value of the work as a whole is greatly enhanced by the inclusion of the freight adjustment tables.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842.

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BOTB News

Warm support for Export Year from Duke of Edinburgh

'The first day of June is the first day of Export Year.' That was the announcement made by Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, on Wednesday, 5 May.

Sir Frederick's statement, which was made at a lunchtime speech to over 300 delegates from all sections of industry at an export conference in West London, received warm support from HRH the Duke of Edinburgh in his speech to the conference.

Export Year, the delegates were told, is being launched by a number of leading organisations – the TUC, CBI, the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, the Committee on Invisible Exports and the BOTB and its Advisory Council – who have co-operated for this major initiative.

Well-known patrons

On behalf of each of these organisations Export Year has seven well-known patrons: HRH the Duke of Kent, who takes up his position as vice-chairman of BOTB on the first day of Export Year; Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade and chairman of BOTAC; Jack Jones, member of the TUC General Council; Lord Limerick, president of the ABCC; Lord Luke, president of the Institute of Export; Sir Francis Sandilands, chairman of the COIE; and Lord Watkinson, president-elect of the CBI.

The reasons for Export Year

In the course of his speech, and at a joint press conference later in the afternoon, Sir Frederick and patrons of the year spelled out their reasons for launching Export Year. It is intended to make everyone in the country who is in any way connected with manufacturing and selling exportable goods and services more aware of the importance of their work, more aware of how that work affects their own prosperity and well-being.

'Our objective is that everyone within a company understands more clearly how he or she contributes to the success of their firm's overseas trading,' patrons said, in a collective statement. 'We believe that everyone will realise more fully how the security of their jobs, the creation of new jobs and the well being of the community are dependent upon overseas success.'

This objective will be realised, the patrons believe, by companies throughout the country organising their own Export Year. Sir Frederick said that this was how the idea for an Export Year came about – from a member of a firm, TBA Industrial Products Ltd., Rochdale, which ran its own Export Year most successfully.

During that year TBA ensured that all its employees were aware of what the company was trying to do on the export front. This was achieved through discussion with shop stewards, the production of an in-house magazine, display boards, and by bringing overseas representatives home to talk to employees and inviting leading personalities concerned with exports to visit the firm at Rochdale.

Export Year adviser

TBA's own Export Year was a great success and now its organiser, the firm's export director Roy Earnshaw, has been appointed Export Year adviser, with the task of encouraging other firms to organise their own Export Year.

He has already had some success. For in a pilot run earlier this year a number of companies and organisations – including Vickers Ltd., Fisons Ltd., the National Coal Board and BICC – agreed to run an Export Year in their own organisations. In order to help launch the Year an Export Year office is being set up at the BOTB's headquarters in central London, and the Export Year adviser will be available to visit firms throughout the country.

In the next few weeks members of the organisations supporting Export Year will receive from them a leaflet introducing Export Year, and an executive committee under the chairmanship of David Royce, BOTB, and with senior representatives of each of the sponsors, has been set up to initiate regional events during the year.

Firms who would like to receive a copy of the leaflet being distributed should contact the Export Year Office, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET: tel. 01-215 5180/5773.

Increase in exports 'vital'

Patron Jack Jones said that the need for a massive increase in exports was vital for Britain's economic recovery. 'For British workers that means more jobs and more regular employment. British workers can play a very big part in helping to ensure a better future of full employment and an improved standard of living by fully co-operating in this drive to increase British exports.'

On the invisibles side, Sir Francis Sandilands explained, 'An actor on the West End stage, a girl sitting in a City office, a doctor in Harley Street, a restaurant owner – all can be invisible exporters if the customers for their services are foreign, and all have contributed to the balance on private invisible exports which has been in surplus for 200 years. Invisible exports are vital to this country, both invisible earnings and invisible jobs. I am sure that Export Year will highlight their importance.'

Export Year adviser, Roy Earnshaw.

Lord Limerick to open senior management seminar on overseas trade

The Earl of Limerick, member of the British Overseas Trade Board and president of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, will speak on the challenges to British industry posed by the much faster growth of external trade compared with the home market, at the Administrative Staff College, Henley, on 21 July.

Lord Limerick's speech will open a three-day residential seminar entitled 'Developing Overseas Trade' – a course designed for managing directors and their senior colleagues, which will look at methods of constructing a total strategy for developing overseas business.

The seminar, which is sponsored by the BOTB runs from 21-24 July. It has two central themes, 'The Changing International Environment' analyses the prospects within the OECD world, the scope for business in developing countries and emergence of Japan as a worldwide competitor and the second 'Policies for Developing Business Abroad' will consider overseas marketing strategies, the role of export pricing, the use of government and other agencies, and export finance.

Strong emphasis will be placed upon problem-solving at the level of the individual organisation. Time will be allotted at the end of each major course component for group work, when the participants will divide according to sectional interests and discuss the implications of what they have learned for their own particular enterprise.

Lord Limerick is one of a number of distinguished contributors to the seminar. The visiting panel will also include David Liston, education adviser to the BOTB and pro-rector of the Polytechnic of Central London, Professor Tibor Mende, a member of the faculty of the Centre d'Etudes Industrielles, Geneva, James Morrell, Director, Henley Centre for Forecasting; Andrew Tessler, Managing Director, ITI (Europe) Ltd. who conducted the study for the BETRO Trust report, 'Concentration on Key Markets', Dr. Norman White, adviser to the Board of Hambros Bank Ltd. and David Losh, area manager for Latin America, Tootal Ltd. Also participating will be members of the Henley Faculty.

The seminar fee is £200 plus VAT which covers residence, food and all expenses connected with the programme of studies. Further information can be obtained from Sir James Lindsay, Director of International Programmes, Administrative Staff College, Greenlands, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 3AU, tel. 049-166 454.

Seminar on Belgian industrial investment in the UK

A one-day seminar 'Belgian Industrial Co-operation in the United Kingdom', arranged by the British Chamber of Commerce for Belgium and Luxembourg, and the Federation of Belgian Enterprises will be held in the FEB offices, rue Ravenstein 4, 1000 Bruxelles, on 25 May.

The seminar is aimed at small, medium or large industrial companies in Belgium who may be thinking of commencing or developing activities in the UK. Participants will hear about the first hand experience in the UK of some Belgian firms, the British business climate and the opportunities and incentives for industrial co-operation in the UK.

Mr. M. J. Guilmain, secretary-general, FEB, will chair the seminar assisted by Mr. D. H. Pantlin, OBE, president of the British Chamber of Commerce for Belgium and Luxembourg, speakers will include; Mr. A. B. Powell, Department of Industry, London and Mr. J. E. W. D'Ancona, Offshore Supplies Office, Glasgow.

Annual export promotion training course

A reception was given by the Department of Trade at its headquarters in Victoria Street on 23 April to welcome officials from developing countries to a UK training course. The UK provides an annual export promotion training course for officials from developing countries which lasts for three months. It is held at the University of Manchester and is designed to meet the special needs of developing countries and aims to improve their export efficiency. The course is organised jointly by the Department of Trade and the British Council and is financed by the Ministry of Overseas Development from UK Technical Assistance funds by awards made on a government to government basis.

Soviet-British trade conference

The London Chamber and the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry are holding a Soviet-British trade conference on Monday 10 May at the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, London W1A 2HH.

A top-level Soviet delegation will be in Britain in the week beginning 10 May for the annual session of the Soviet-British joint commission on economic, industrial, scientific and technical co-operation, and most of the speakers at the conference, which is being organised in co-operation with the Soviet Trade Delegation in London, will be members of the Soviet delegation. Members of the USSR Embassy and Trade Delegation in London will also be present.

Inquiries to Elizabeth Sachrajda, East European Sections, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB tel. 01-248 4444 ext. 37.

Poland's five-year plan

A special talk on the Polish five-year plan and opportunities for business and co-operation with Poland has been organised by the Polish Section of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Wednesday 12 May 1976 at 4 p.m.

The event will be held at the Café Royal (Louis Suite), Regent's Street, London W1, and the speaker will be Dr. E. Tabaczynski, Chief of Division for Machinery and Industrial Co-operation in the Foreign Trade Institute of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Trade and Shipping.

The meeting will be followed by a reception, for Dr. Tabaczynski and members of the Polish Commercial Department.

Inquiries should be addressed to Elizabeth Sachrajda, East European Section, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, EC4N 5AB tel. 01-248 4444 ext. 37.

Seminar on trading with Switzerland

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry is to hold a half-day seminar on 21 May highlighting the opportunities for trade with Switzerland, including tourism and finance. The chairman will be the hon. Michael D. Sieff, the member of the BOTB European Trade Committee with special responsibility for Switzerland and director of Marks and Spencer Ltd.

The seminar is to be held at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, beginning at 10.30 am, and concluding with a buffet lunch. Details are available from Miss Anita Russell, West European Section, LCCI, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB (01-248 4444 ext. 124/132).

Missions and Tours

'A great deal of goodwill' for British equipment and technology in Brazil

From John Lamont, mission secretary
The Birmingham Engineering and Building Centre, with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board, sponsored its second trade mission to Brazil from 26 March to 9 April 1976. This followed the very successful mission of 12 months ago and although representation was considerably smaller in number lacked nothing in drive and determination. The mission was based in the main industrial centre of Sao Paulo for one week, moving to Rio de Janeiro for the second week's stay. Another centre, Belo Horizonte, was visited by individual mission members.

The mission, led as last year, by the export director of Judge International Housewares Ltd., Ron Tuplin, included representatives of five other companies which were in the main already well familiar with Brazil as a market.

They were: Autoflow Engineering Ltd., Barwell Machine Marketing Ltd., Burman Automotive Components International, Conjoint Export Services (South America) Ltd. and Wickman Machine Tools (Overseas) Ltd.

While it is too early to predict accurately the benefits to be reaped from the visit, mission members reported that a range of objectives was successfully achieved, involving the formation of joint venture partnerships, appointment of agents, considerable sales and openings for manufacture under licence agreements. Everybody on the mission did some business. The mission leader estimated that new orders taken, potential orders and orders concluded during the mission's visit would in total amount to more than £1.5 million. The results pay tribute to the enthusiasm and perseverance of the companies represented, at a time when Brazil's import restraint policies and a market tightness demand greater persistence and competitive spirit to participate in Brazil's industrial expansion.

Mr. Tuplin said: 'The results obtained, unlike the mission of last year when sales in the region of £10 million were confidently predicted, give no real indication of the vast market potential available to British industry The economic climate in Brazil has changed considerably in the space of 12 months. The introduction of a series of measures, in the face of a serious balance of payments deficit, designed to restrain imports and at the same time stimulate the internal manufacturing industries with the aim of increasing exports is beginning to have considerable effect on exports to Brazil. The most serious of these measures, as far as British industry is concerned was the introduction of an import deposit requirement which has very few exemptions. From my discussions it is evident that a great deal of goodwill exists in Brazil for British equipment and technology.

'It is equally evident, given the current difficulties in exporting to Brazil, that to maintain a foothold in the market and thereby benefit from the expected upturn in the economy within the next two years, the return to the double figure growth rates of the early seventies and the general relaxation of the import restrictions, British industry should give serious consideration to some form of investment to the mutual benefit of both the UK and Brazil. It is perhaps more than coincidental that the three countries which have invested most heavily in Brazil, (USA, West Germany and Japan) are the countries which have the lions share of Brazil's imports. We were happy to note that the name of Birmingham was already firmly established as a name representative of British industry, its quality and craftsmanship, at its best.'

Leeds chamber's June visit to South Africa

The Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry is sponsoring a trade mission to South Africa from 11-29 June under the BOTB outward mission scheme.

The mission, which consists of 13 delegates, will be broadly based, covering a wide range of trades and will be led by Mr. A. C. Weller, managing director of Stylo Matchmakers International Ltd., sports footwear manufacturers.

For further information contact Cecil Wilson, Leeds Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 9 Quebec Street, Leeds LS1 2HD, tel. Leeds 30491.

Regional development authorities co-operate to sell central Britain

The North West Industrial Development Association and the Yorkshire and Humberside Development Association have joined forces in their continuing efforts to attract new investment to the two regions. The two associations are co-operating with promotions at the current Hannover Fair and at the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston, Texas from 3-6 May under the title 'Central Britain Development Authorities'. The Houston promotion includes the use of a suite in one of the principal hotels which the associations will use as an operating base throughout the conference. The use of this suite will be extended to businessmen who are to be present at the Houston OTC either as exhibitors or visitors.

The joint mission to the Offshore Technology Conference will have the two-fold aim of identifying companies who might be interested in establishing some form of operation and identifying possible joint venture opportunities which may be of interest to industry in the two regions.

Representatives from the two associations will also have the opportunity of renewing acquaintances with US companies who have previously expressed interest in the two regions.

Apart from participation in inward investment missions promoted by the British Government abroad, this is the first occasion on which two associations have joined forces in their efforts to attract new industrial investment to north west England and to the Yorkshire and Humberside region respectively.

Proposals exist for further joint ventures abroad by the two associations but these will only be implemented if their initial promotions point a way to success.

Westminster mission to South America

The City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce is to sponsor a third mission to Brazil and Venezuela in September this year, following successful missions to South America in 1974 and again last year. These two countries have been selected yet again, since they not only present major markets for British exporters, but they also provide excellent centres for individual delegates to make short side trips to other states, if so desired.

Basically, the mission will spend a week in Sao Paulo, a week in Rio de Janeiro, and a week in Caracas. The firms selected to make the trip will represent a broad spectrum of British goods and services. The main objectives will be to sell goods and services, to visit existing or potential agents and distributors, and generally to explore the market.

Further details from David Treherne, the City of Westminster Chamber of Commerce, Mitre House, 177 Regent Street, London W1R 8DJ tel. 01-734 2851.

UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate Regional Office for firms outside London, and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and the South East of England). The Department, in co-operation with Commercial Officers at Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the Commercial Officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department of Trade would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas Commercial Officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the Department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible. The range of information required for this purpose includes details of the firm, their products/services and the purpose and background to the visit.

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Exhibitions and Fairs

Doubled sales of aerospace equipment to Japan

From E. I. Field, First Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Tokyo: Despite gloomy talk of recession, UK machinery sales to Japan have held up very well over the past year. The brightest star has been aerospace equipment, where sales in 1975 on Society of British Aerospace Companies figures totalled nearly £40 million, compared with just over £20 million in 1974.

Against this background 18 British companies celebrated the 60th anniversary of the SBAC by participating in an aerospace equipment exhibition at the British Export Marketing Centre, Tokyo, from 6-10 April. The exhibition was sponsored by BOTB and SBAC, whose former president, Mr. E. R. Sisson, acted as spokesman for the British industry. The group presented a well-balanced picture of UK capability and included the major airframe and engine makers, as well as leading companies from among the electronics equipment, components and materials manufacturers.

Japanese interest in British aerospace equipment has been notable in recent months. Not only do the sales figures bear this out, but recent visits, such as that of the high level Japanese Aircraft Industry Council mission last November, have served to stimulate Japanese awareness of the technical achievements of the British industry.

The exhibition itself attracted one of the highest turnouts ever at the marketing centre and exhibitors were delighted with both the quality and quantity of attendance. During the course of the show they were able to meet virtually all the senior figures in the Japanese aviation world. In addition, a technological seminar covering three days drew near sell-out audiences from senior staff of the defence agency, research institutes and industry.

It was the unanimous opinion of the exhibitors that they were able to get through more business at the BEMC exhibition than at any normal air show.

Japanese industry is currently at a crossroads, trying to decide which of a number of new projects can be developed. Although outline plans have been drawn up, sometimes involving co-operation with American companies, opportunities exist for collaboration with or sales by British companies. Exhibitors were able to meet personnel concerned with forward planning and discuss these projects. Without this willingness to take a long term view sales of aircraft parts would not have expanded from £1.2 million in 1972 to over £10 million in 1975.

The Japanese have been particularly impressed by the technological achievements of leading British electronics manufacturers. Companies such as Ferranti, Marconi-Elliott, Decca and Smiths Industries, all found interest in their products and for them the exhibition was an excellent vehicle for continuing their marketing operations in Japan. Smiths already have three licensing agreements with Japanese companies and Ferranti is supplying the inertial navigation system for the Japanese built T-2 jet trainer and FST-2 fighter.

No one expects to sell aircraft from an exhibition and both Hawker Siddeley and BAC viewed the BEMC show as a chance to establish their name in Japan further. Nonetheless BAC is actively investigating the possibility of selling the 1-11-475 to a domestic airline and useful contacts were made during the week.

Rolls-Royce used the occasion to explain their ideas for the future development of jet aero engines. Such forward thinking is necessary to maintain the interest of local manufacturers and airlines. Past activities are now bearing fruit in the form of jet engine sales of nearly £16 million in 1975 as against less than £4 million in 1972.

Among other activities this year it is expected that Farnborough will be a big attraction to Japanese visitors. In return some British companies will be exhibiting at the Japan International Aerospace Show in October, but the number will be less than in 1973 because of its proximity to Farnborough. British visitors will be in Tokyo for the show and there is also a strong possibility that an SBAC mission will visit Japan at that time at the invitation of the Japanese industry.

Helsinki International Building Fair

From J. V. Tuukkanen (Commercial Officer), British Embassy, Helsinki: Organised by the Finnish Fair Corporation and sponsored by the Building Information Institution and the Federation of Finnish Heating, Ventilating and Sanitary Engineering Associations, the Helsinki International Building Fair brought together – for the first time and under the same roof – the building and heating industries. Coinciding with the fair, the 11th Nordic Hevac conference was also arranged in Helsinki.

During three trade days and three public days over 80,000 people came to see the 950 exhibits from Finland and 26 other countries, including Great Britain. Britain was the only country with a national stand.

The fair was opened by Sakari T. Lehto, Minister for Foreign Trade, who, in his speech stressed the importance of the Finnish building industry making the optimum use of available materials and resources, particularly energy saving systems in the heating and air-conditioning field.

The strong overall British presence in the fair included a joint venture stand of six firms, co-ordinated by the BOTB and the Building Materials Export Group. Participating were The British Screw Co. Ltd., Conex Sanbra Ltd. (compression fittings), Flotex Ltd. (carpeting), Radiant Tube Systems Ltd., Royair Ltd. (grilles and diffusers), and Stanley Tools Ltd. Five of the companies are already active in Finland through their local representatives, and all of them have indicated satisfaction at the level of inquiries they received and at the interest expressed. The only newcomer, Radiant Tube Systems Ltd., seeking a partner to manufacture under licence their cost effective space heating system, reported active interest by a number of important Finnish manufacturers – both as potential MUL partners and as customers.

It is very difficult to be precise about the market for building products but imports are substantial. Estimates for 1974 indicate that imports may have been as high as over Finnmarks 800 million and in 1975 may exceed Finnmarks 1,000 million. Main categories include mineral products and glass, paint materials and paint, central heating equipment and steel pipes and other metal products including building steel.

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Signs of a general revival in electronic components market in Paris

From Robert Hyde, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Paris: Thirty-seven British companies took part in a joint venture sponsored by the Electronic Components Board at the 19th Paris Salon International des Composants Electroniques at the Porte de Versailles Exhibition Park from 5 to 10 April; a further 41 British companies were represented outside the joint venture. Exhibitors numbered 1,013, including 560 from 28 foreign countries (of which only the USA and Germany accounted for more exhibitors than Britain). The show attracted 72,280 visitors, compared with 61,053 in 1975, an increase of over 18 per cent; the increased attendance was all the more gratifying in that the 1976 show did not have a section for measuring instruments since the separate triennial exhibition specialising in this category (MESUCORA) is due to be held from 10 to 17 June 1976. The total of 9,055 overseas visitors from 84 countries included 1,017 from Britain.

The salon opened in a mood of cautious optimism among both French and foreign manufacturers; there were signs that a general revival in the international components market was spreading to France, whose imports in 1975 of nearly 2,500 million francs were virtually in balance with her exports. Several of Britain's leading manufacturers participated in the joint venture, including Plessey (with nine group companies), Pye (six group companies), Ferranti, Thorn and EMI; Plessey and Pye had particularly striking stands, the latter providing a special bonus in the form of a macro-crystal which attracted special interest. Among the smaller companies, Jaybeam, who did very well with their mobile radio telephone duplexers and filters from a stand situated alongside a prominent German competitor. The British Ambassador, Sir Nicholas Henderson, KCMG, paid an official visit to the salon on 7 April, in the course of which he visited a representative selection of the British stands. The Ambassador visited briefly an exhibition within the salon on the history of television, and was shown a copy of Baird's original patent application of 1923.

Robin Addie (left) of Plessey with British Ambassador Sir Nicholas Henderson who was visiting the Plessey stand during the Salon International des Composants Electroniques in Paris on 7 April.

Biggest ever UK showing at Houston offshore exhibition

The Offshore Technology Conference and Exposition in Houston, Texas, 3-6 May, will have the biggest-ever British representation. Over 100 UK companies will be represented on a 63-stand display arranged by the BOTB in conjunction with the Association of British Oceanic Industries (ABOI). The British group will be the largest foreign contingent, and Dr. J. Dixon Mabon, Minister of State at the Department of Energy, will visit the show on 4 May.

UK products and services on show will cover most aspects of the offshore industry ranging from contractors prepared to handle massive capital projects to providers of small components, and from tank gauging equipment to unmanned underseas inspection craft.

At the same time as the exhibition the BOTB is also supporting a group of 30 companies taking part in outward missions to Houston organised by ABOI and the London Chamber of Commerce.

Increased interest in French clothing

From Robert Hyde, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Paris: The 31st Paris International Women's Ready-to-Wear Salon was held at the Porte de Versailles Exhibition Park from 3-7 April. This year's spring salon saw a record number of 850 exhibitors, of whom over 250 represented foreign companies from 23 countries. The British joint venture sponsored by the Clothing Export Council with BOTB support was the largest to date at this show, 51 British companies taking part.

British clothes exports to France were worth over £14 million in 1975, compared with just under £10 million in the previous year, and this was obviously one of the factors which attracted even greater interest on the part of the British clothing industry. In general, companies showing more expensive clothes found the best response among buyers visiting the salon; the exception to this rule seemed to be that kilts at all price levels proved extremely popular, with Cumbrae (F. J. Bacon) doing notably well. Mention should also be made of Olympia Fashions, whose new clothes from old attracted a great deal of interest and business, and of the Royal College of Art, who presented on the Clothing Export Council stand an attractive collection of designs for printed, woven and knitted fashion fabrics.

Lady Henderson, wife of the British Ambassador, visited a number of the British stands on 5 April, in the company of Mr. G. F. Finlayson, Counsellor (Commercial), at the Embassy.

This year's Prêt-à-Porter repeated and even exceeded the success of previous shows, and attracted a record attendance of 46,108, including 24,779 overseas buyers.

British industrial firms flock to Hanover Fair

The largest non-German contribution to the Hanover Fair – the world's most important exhibition of industrial goods which opened on 29 April – is from Britain. The BOTB is backing 139 companies organised in 11 joint venture groups each being sponsored by an appropriate trade association.

The wide range of British products on show include engineering and precision tools, jewellery, giftware, office equipment, and electrical components for domestic, commercial and industrial uses. Scientific instruments and heating, ventilating, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment are also displayed. Among the multitude of other British exhibits there are diesel engine pistons, ultrasonic cleaning equipment, gear boxes, traction and pump motors, gas turbines, battery chargers and electronic measuring systems.

Running concurrently with the show, 29 April-6 May, are eight conferences and an extra one on developing countries at which speakers from Britain will read papers. Exhibitors know that there are excellent opportunities to do business during the event and that the long-term indications are very favourable.

European Community News

Representative rate for pound unchanged following agriculture council

The representative rate, or 'green pound', used for the pound sterling in the calculation of EEC monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) on agricultural imports is to remain unchanged.

Fred Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, made the point in a written reply to a Parliamentary question on 3 May, following a special meeting of EEC agriculture ministers in Luxembourg on 29 April.

Replying to a question from Mark Hughes, member for Durham, Mr. Peart said that the council had considered the cost to the community budget of increases in monetary compensatory amounts resulting from changes in the market rates for the lira and the pound sterling. They had agreed that the representative rate for the lira should be adjusted by about 6 per cent. But the commission had not proposed a change in the representative rate for the pound and their proposal to apply a corrective factor, which would have had the effect of reducing the monetary compensatory amounts, which as subsidies on our food imports, was not adopted.

Mr. Peart said the council had also agreed that from 17 May the monetary compensatory amount payable on imports into the United Kingdom and Italy from the other seven member states would be paid in the exporting country. This would not, he said, involve any reduction in the amount of money being paid on a transaction. There would be a saving on the agricultural budget in units of account since more payments will be made in the strong currencies and fewer payments will be made in sterling or lira.

'The new arrangements may tend slightly to reduce food prices in the United Kingdom: Importers will no longer need to meet the cost of obtaining so much foreign exchange because the purchase price will already benefit from the full monetary compensatory amount paid in the exporting country.

'Since the MCA payments on our imports from other member states (except Italy) will be made in the exporting country, the United Kingdom will no longer receive these payments from Feoga directly, but the balance of payments affect of this will be offset by a corresponding cut in the price of our imports. UK public expenditure will not be increased and in due course there should be some administrative savings both in the public service and for traders.'

Finally, Mr. Peart explained that, apart from these monetary changes, the other main decision taken by the council was to extend the suspension of the common external tariff on new potatoes to 20 May.

Steers (M) to be excluded from beef intervention

The current level of intervention on beef has recently been under close review within the community and action is being taken in several member states to restrict its use for the time being. In Great Britain it has been decided, with the Government's agreement, that the top grade of cattle, Steers (M), will be excluded from intervention.

The change came into operation on 3 May, for a limited period. Its effect will be reviewed at the end of June. Action to limit intervention purchases in Northern Ireland was announced on 1 April.

Steers (M), which are steers of eligible quality in the weight range 551 to 660 lb deadweight, represent about 40 per cent of cattle recently purchased for intervention in Great Britain.

Intervention purchases for beef in Great Britain are currently running at approximately 650 tons per week.

It is the view of the EEC agricultural ministers that intervention has a necessary role to play in underpinning the market and the variable premium in order to achieve the target price; and it remains their intention to use intervention in this way, especially if the market is weak in the autumn. But in their judgment present market circumstances do not warrant excessive use of intervention.

Unemployment on finance ministers' agenda

Unemployment was the main topic of discussion at an informal meeting of the community's finance ministers on 26 April held at the British Chancellor of the Exchequer's suggestion.

Ministers also discussed a commission paper which drew attention to divergencies in economic performance within the community and suggested ways in which they might be reduced. The commission's proposals met opposition from a number of ministers, including the Chancellor, who felt that convergence of economic performance would best be achieved through the harmonisation of national policies, in the light of the social and political environment in individual countries, rather than through precise monetary and fiscal targets and enforced community disciplines.

The unemployment debate centred on two documents; one presented by the commission and a second, on the macro economic aspects of unemployment, circulated by Mr. Healey.

After a wide-ranging exchange of views which concentrated on the medium-term aspects of the unemployment problem, the key points to emerge were:

firstly, the importance of the relationship between overall demand and output and productive capacity; secondly, the importance for growth without inflation of effective incomes policies, and, thirdly, the need to stimulate job-creating investment.

Ministers agreed that the restoration of a satisfactory level of employment was a priority task for the community.

Proposals to combat tax evasion and avoidance

A draft directive for common action by the Nine to combat international tax evasion and avoidance has been submitted to the council of ministers by the commission.

The directive, which is confined to the field of direct taxation, seeks to combat tax evasion and avoidance by obliging member states to supply information and permit investigation by other member states in certain circumstances so that each state will have access to all the facts and material required for determining the amount chargeable to tax.

At the same time the commission's draft is concerned with the protection of taxpayers' rights and stipulates that information exchanged by member states will not be available to unauthorised persons. It stresses that the confidential nature of such information must be respected and not used for any other ends than those specified in the directive.

Equal pay proceedings before the European court: Defrenne v Sabena

In proceedings brought before it by a Belgian court recently, the European communities' court of justice ruled that under Article 119 of the Treaty of Rome the principle of equal pay among men and women doing equal work is directly applicable in member states and capable of being invoked before national courts.

Article 119 has had direct effect in the original six EEC member states since 1 January 1962 – the date of the commencement of the second stage of the communities' development – and in the new member states from 1 January 1973. But, except in the case of workers who have previously introduced an action or raised an equivalent claim, the court has specified that the direct effect of the article may not be invoked in support of claims relating to periods of remuneration earlier than the date of the judgement – 8 April 1976.

The case, which prompted the ruling, was of considerable interest to the United Kingdom. It concerned a former air hostess, Gabrielle Defrenne, who worked for the Sabena airline from December 1951 to February 1968. Mlle. Defrenne had brought an action before a Belgian court claiming, inter alia, the sum of BF12,716, representing the difference between the salary actually received by her between 15 February 1963 and 1 February 1966 and the salary which would have been earned by a cabin steward with the same seniority. In December 1970, the court declared the request to be unfounded, dismissed the claim and ordered Mlle. Defrenne to pay the costs.

Mlle. Defrenne lodged an appeal against this decision in January 1971, but her appeal was not heard until February 1975. Mlle. Defrenne maintained, firstly, that Article 119 of the Treaty of Rome had formed part of Belgian national law since the ratification of the treaty on 2 December 1957; secondly that in consequence as from that date men and women must receive the same pay where they perform the same duties; and, thirdly, that any violation of this principle was unlawful.

In other words she maintained that Article 119 was 'self executing' in nature and that it had therefore become directly applicable in the national laws of the member states.

The European court was asked by the Belgian court to rule on whether Article 119 is directly applicable in the national laws of the member states. In the UK, such a ruling could have meant that all employees in the UK had been entitled to equal pay since 1 January 1973 – the date of UK accession to the EEC – and not from 29 December 1975 when the Equal Pay Act 1970 came into force.

After considering the implications for the UK of a judgement in favour of Mlle. Defrenne, the Government decided that the UK should exercise its rights and submit to the European Court written observations arguing against the direct applicability of Article 119 on both legal and practical grounds. This was done last July.

The Republic of Ireland also submitted observations along the same lines, while, the European commission, which has the same right to submit observations, suggested that Article 119 should be directly applicable only in respect of public sector employees.

EIB loan for new North Sea gas pipeline ...

A loan equivalent to £17.3 million (29.4 million units of account) has been granted to the British Gas Corporation by the European Investment Bank to help finance a pipeline across southern England which will transmit North Sea natural gas towards the south-west.

The loan is for eight years at an interest rate of 9 per cent and it brings to £85.1 million the total finance provided by the EIB for major gas transmission projects in the United Kingdom.

The pipeline – to be known as the 'Southern Feeder' – will deliver natural gas from the southern sector of the North Sea which is landed at east coast terminals. It will run over 200 miles from Wisbech in Cambridgeshire, passing near Oxford and Southampton, to Dorset, where it will link up with the existing system.

Apart from contributing to the EEC's drive to maximise energy resources within the community and reduce dependence on oil imports, the project also promises significant regional benefits since part of the supplies are destined for development areas in Devon and Cornwall.

... and £11.6 million for high-speed trains

A further £11.6 million (19.7 mua) has been granted by the EIB to the British Railways Board to help finance construction of three prototype advanced passenger trains, a revolutionary design of train capable of running at speeds of up to 155 mph on existing track. The loan is for eight years at an interest rate of 9 per cent.

Several years of research and the thorough testing of an experimental train have gone into the design of the APT project, which represents a break-through in the concept of high speed rail travel.

High speed trains normally depend on the costly laying of new track which eliminates severe curves but, thanks to a unique suspension system developed by British Rail engineers, this does not apply to the Advanced Passenger Train. The system not only gives high speeds, but low energy consumption and running costs, very little noise and, through an associated system which tilts carriages inwards on bends, a high degree of passenger comfort.

The first three APTs will be electric trains, each with two power cars positioned between a total of 12 trailer cars. They will be brought into passenger service in 1978 on the main line between London and Glasgow. The journey time, even with speeds initially no higher than 125 mph, will be four hours compared with the fastest time of five hours by conventional trains.

Thereafter it is planned to introduce APTs throughout British Rail's London Midland region main line serving such places as Birmingham, Manchester and Liverpool, and, in due course, to all other inter-city routes, for which it may be necessary to develop a non-electric version.

The scale of the initial investment in the three trains is in the region of £25 million.

More on the EEC

Information on EEC matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of 'Trade and Industry'. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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EEC Regional Development Fund – the UK's second 1976 allocation

The UK's £17.6 million share in the latest round of European Regional Development Fund allocations will cover a total of 262 projects in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Details of the commission's latest decisions on allocations from the fund were announced on 29 April (see 30 April issue of *Trade and Industry*).

Industrial and service industry projects

The UK share includes contributions totalling £2.5 million towards the cost of national aids to 73 industrial and service industry projects in England (see right). The money made available in respect of individual and service industry projects will not be passed on to the individual businesses concerned, but will be retained by the Government and used to go ahead with a greater total of regional investment than would otherwise have been possible.

Northern region

PROJECTS – 36 ERDF AID – £1,203,368

Location	Company	Sector
Berwick	Homac Foods Ltd.	Frozen food processing
Billingham	United Biscuits Ltd.	Crisp production
Burton-in-Kendal, Cumbria	Clawthorpe Hall Hotel	Tourism
Carlisle	Aero Precision and General Engineering Ltd.	Components manufacturing
Carlisle	Pirelli Ltd.	Tyre manufacture
Cockermouth	James Walker and Co. Ltd.	Jointing and gasket manufacturing
Consett	Boutade Ltd.	Printing
Cramlington	Dunlop Ltd. (two projects)	Hose manufacturing
Cramlington	AAF Ltd.	Air conditioning system
Darlington	Cummins Engine Co. Ltd.	Diesel manufacturing
Darlington	Newbus Grange Hotel	Tourism
Gateshead	The De La Rue Co. Ltd.	Printing
Hartlepool	Polypac Bal Ltd.	Hydraulic seal manufacturing
Hartlepool	Hartlepool Marine Servicing Co. Ltd.	Constructional engineering
Jarrow	BE Modern Ltd.	Furniture manufacturing
Jarrow	Allen Bradley Electronics Ltd.	Computer components
Milnthorpe	Libby, McNeill and Libby Ltd.	Fruit drink production
Newcastle	Unit Offset Ltd.	Printing
Newcastle	Vickers Ltd.	Computer centre
Newcastle	John Arthur and Son Ltd.	Coopering
Newcastle	Gelders (Confectioners) Ltd.	Confectionery products
North Shields	Angloplas Polythene Ltd.	Film and bag manufacturing
North Shields	British Die Casting and Engineering Co. Ltd.	Die casting
North Shields	Formica Ltd.	Plastics and chipboard manufacturing
North Shields	Stoel (International) Ltd.	Furniture manufacturing
Peterlee	Linread Ltd.	Bolt and rivet manufacturing
South Shields	Burgess Products Co. Ltd.	Acoustical engineering
South Shields	F. C. Lowe and Son Ltd.	Dog biscuit manufacturing
South Shields	Keeler Optical Products	Opthalmic instruments manufacturing
Sunderland	DME (Hendon) Ltd.	Incinerator manufacturing
Stockton	Hargreaves Vehicle Distributors Ltd.	Vehicle building
Stockton	Elta Plastics Ltd.	Plastic injection moulding
Whitehaven	Albright and Wilson Ltd.	Bottle manufacturing
Workington	Ellay Enfield Tubes Ltd.	Aluminium tube manufacturing
Workington	Integrated Circuit Controls Ltd.	Electronic control manufacturing

North west region

PROJECTS – 12 ERDF AID £540,587

Location	Company	Sector
Crewe	Twinlock Ltd.	Office equipment manufacturing
Kirkby, Lancs.	Rentokil Group Ltd.	Timber preservatives
Littleborough	Compoflex Co. Ltd.	Tube and hose manufacturing
Liverpool	Perris and Kearon Ltd.	Vehicle body manufacturing
Manchester	GEC Turbine Generators Ltd.	Steam turbines
Manchester	Lintafoam Plastics Ltd.	Plastics production
Nelson	Coloroll Ltd.	Paper bag manufacturing
Preston	The General Engineering Co. Ltd.	Cable winding machinery
Rainford	Welding Units Ltd.	Flange manufacturing
Skelmersdale	Typolac (UK) Ltd.	Colour card production
Widnes	Croda Food Ingredients Ltd.	Gelatin manufacturing
Winsford	VG Micromass Ltd.	Scientific instruments

Yorkshire and Humberside region

PROJECTS – 16 ERDF AID – £516,470

Location	Company	Sector
Bradford	Marston Radiators Ltd.	Engine radiator manufacturing
Kilnhurst	Gerrard Industries Ltd.	Pallet racking manufacturing
Leeds	W. and H. Miers Ltd.	Leather production
Maltby, Yorks	Stanley Tools Ltd.	Hand tools manufacturing
Morley, Yorks	Hailwood and Ackroyd Ltd.	Lightfitting equipment
Northallerton	Farm Feed Holdings Ltd.	Micronised products
Ravensthorpe	Unituft International Ltd.	Furnishing fabrics
Richmond	Beaverfoam Ltd.	Polyether foam conversion
Scarborough	Erskine Systems Ltd.	Electronic engineering
Scarborough	Taylor Precision Engineering Co. Ltd.	Precision engineering
Scarborough	Woodhead (Scarborough) Ltd.	Bakery
Sheffield	Sulzer Brothers (UK) Ltd.	General engineering
Thirsk	Thircon Ltd.	Structural engineering
Whitby	Rayner and Co. Ltd.	Food manufacturing
Yeadon	Hepworth and Grandage Ltd.	Aircraft blade manufacturing
York	Micro Metalsmiths Ltd.	Precision castings

East midlands region

PROJECTS – 3 ERDF AID – £130,316

Location	Company	Sector
Dronfield	Hallam Polymers and Engineering Ltd.	Polyurethane products
Gainsborough	ESB Universal Ltd.	Electrical machinery
Riddings	Diversey Ltd.	Chemical production

Detailed statistics of UK overseas trade

Each month the Overseas Trade Statistics give a considerable amount of detail about United Kingdom imports, exports and commodities and, for many of them, the most important countries. The information in these statistics is a summary of much more detailed information. This is derived from declarations made by traders to HM Customs and Excise under the descriptions in the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification (which has over 11,000 commodity headings); there are 199 specified countries.

The fully detailed information is not published on a monthly basis but, when circumstances allow HM Customs and Excise can supply detailed information about trade under individual descriptions of the Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification and with individual countries or through United Kingdom ports, either for particular months or for longer periods. A charge is made which covers the cost of the service. Applications should be made to the Statistical Office (Bill of Entry Section), HM Customs and Excise, 27 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS2 6AL. (Tel. Southend (0702) 49421, ext. 316 or 323 for Imports, or ext. 314 or 315 for Exports, Telex 99112 CUSEX Southend.)

South west region

PROJECTS – 6 ERDF AID – £109,269

Location	Company	Sector
Barnstaple	Architectural Woodcraftsmen Ltd.	Contract joinery
Barnstaple	H. L. Sheldon Ltd.	Light engineering
Bideford	Atlas Pencil Co. Ltd.	Pencils and cosmetics manufacturing
Braunton	North Devon Electronics Ltd.	Electrical coil manufacturing
Plymouth	Westwood Engineering Ltd.	General engineering
Winkleigh	TTB (Devon) Ltd.	Fabrication work

Projects in England, Wales, Scotland and N. Ireland

In addition to the £2.5 million assigned to industrial and service industry projects in England, the balance of the UK allocation will go towards infrastructure projects in England, plus other industrial and infrastructure projects in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Infrastructure projects in England

Northern England

Location	Project
Eston, Cleveland	Construction of two berths at Teesdock – £1,030,500
Tynedale, Northumberland	Construction of Kielder reservoir – £2,994,813
The following projects are included under a global application:	
Alnwick, Amble Industrial Estate	Site preparation
Blyth Valley, Plessey North Moor	Improvement of road
Derwentside, Tanfield Lea Industrial Estate	Provision of sewer, road and drainage
Peterlee, North West Industrial area	Site preparation
Sedgefield, Aycliffe Lane, Aycliffe Industrial Estate	Improvement to access road
Sedgefield, Merrington Lane to Weardale Street	Improvement to access road
Sedgefield, Spennymoor Western Link Road	Extension of existing road
Tees and Hartlepool, Hartlepool Docks	Extension of existing deep water berth
Tyne and Wear, Deptford Terrace to Hanover Place	Reconstruction and realignment of single carriage way
Tyne and Wear Pelaw Station Industrial Estate	Provision of access road
Tyne and Wear, Wardley Lane	Widening and realignment of single carriageway
Port of Tyne Authority, Riverside Quay	Modernisation of cargo quay
North Tyneside, Davy Bank, Wallsend	Reclamation of derelict land for industrial development

TOTAL AID TO 13 PROJECTS – £523,587

North West England

Location	Project
Hyndburn, North West Water Authority	Sewage treatment works – £141,000
Wigan, North West Water Authority	Sewage treatment works – £394,000
Aid is given under global applications to the following projects:	
Blackburn, Roman Road Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
Ellesmere Port, Overpool, Central and Westminster areas of Ellesmere Port	Provision of roads and services
Hyndburn (Altham Industrial Estate)	Construction of sewers
Hyndburn, Altham Lane	Road improvement
Martholme, Hyndburn	Construction of trunk sewer
Liverpool, Orrell Lane	Construction of surface water sewer
Merseyside, Parr Street, Higher Parr Street	Road improvement
Merseyside, South Boundary Road	Road improvement
Pendle, Lomeshay Industrial Estate	Construction of roads
Rochdale, Oldham Road/Bedford Street industrial redevelopment area	Construction of roads and sewers
Runcorn, Astmoor Industrial Estate	Levelling and site preparation
Runcorn, Whitehouse Industrial Estate	Extension of site sewers
Skelmersdale, Pimbo Industrial Area	Construction of road and site works
St. Helens, Haresfinch	Construction of sewer
St. Helens	Site works and levelling of industrial land
Vale Royal, Eastern Industrial Estate	Construction of roads, sewage and drainage

TOTAL AID IN RESPECT OF 16 PROJECTS UNDER A GLOBAL APPLICATION – £563,895

Royal Seaforth Dock, Sefton, Merseyside	Construction of dock shed
Royal Seaforth Dock, Sefton, Merseyside	New construction of silo

AID IN RESPECT OF TWO PROJECTS UNDER A GLOBAL APPLICATION – £1,081,800

Yorkshire and Humberside

Location	Project
Infrastructure projects (global applications):	
Bradford, Canal Road	New construction and improvement
Bradford, Low Moor	Provision of service
Doncaster, Kirk Sandall	Construction of roads and sewers
Doncaster, Shaw Lane	Land improvement
Grimsby, Pyewipe Road	Making up of road
Humberside, Crowle Street Industrial Site	Road improvement
New Clee Industrial Estate	Road improvement
Humberside, West Marsh Industrial Estate	Road improvement
Kingston upon Hull, Cannon Street	Land improvement
Kingston upon Hull	Construction and re-lining of old sewers
Kingston upon Hull	New accommodation for fish merchants
Kingston upon Hull, Sutton Fields Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
Leeds, Barrack Street Industrial Estate	Construction of service roads
Leeds, Cross Green Industrial Estate	Construction of service roads
Leeds, Kirkstall Road Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
Leeds, Manor Street Industrial Estate	Construction of service roads
Leeds, Railsfield Mount Industrial Estate	Construction of service roads
Rotherham, Canklow Meadows Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
Rydale, Malton Industrial Estate	Construction of access roads
South Yorkshire, Carcroft Industrial Estate	Site preparation

TOTAL AID TO 20 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS UNDER A GLOBAL APPLICATION – £354,545

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Infrastructure projects in England *cont.*

East Midlands

Location	Project
Infrastructure (global)	
East Lindsey, Lough Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
TOTAL AID TO INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, UNDER A GLOBAL APPLICATION – £5,700	

South West

Location	Project
Infrastructure projects (global applications)	
Devon, Hatherleigh Industrial Estate	Construction of road
North Cornwall, Pennygillan Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
Plymouth, Belliver Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
Plymouth, Wilmiston Industrial Estate	Construction of roads and sewers
TOTAL AID TO FOUR PROJECTS UNDER A GLOBAL APPLICATION – £43,380	
Torridge, Port of Bideford	New plant machinery – £11,390

Projects in Scotland

TOTAL AID (ALL PROJECTS) – £2,939,654

Industrial projects

Location	Project
Strathclyde, Motherwell, Devro Ltd.	Sausage casings – £510,350

Infrastructure projects (global applications)

Location	Project
GRAMPIAN	
Aberdeen, SE approach road	Construct relief road
Balmoor, Copeland Hill, 48B Hill of Grange	Construction of link road A952-A950
Bullers of Buchan, A975	Construction of access road to landing point for oil pipeline
Dyce, airport industrial site	Construction of access road from A96
Dyce, A947 Stoneywood diversion	Improvement of A947 leading to industrial sites
Dyce, Wellheads-Farburn	Construction of access road
Dyce, 55C Pitmeddan Road	Construction of access road
Howe of Buchan, A950	Construction of access road to pipe storage area
Longside, A950 Faichfield	Construction of access road
Peterhead, A952 Hill of Grange	Construction of access road
Peterhead, South Bay access road	Construction of access road for harbour traffic
Peterhead, peripheral road (phase I)	Construction of access road
Peterhead, peripheral road (phase II)	Construction of access road
Stirlinghill, 66B Lendrum Terrace	Access road to quarries
HIGHLANDS	
Scrabster	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal for transport link with Stromness, Orkney
Ullapool (stage II)	Link span bridge, providing roll on/roll off facilities to Stornoway, Western Isles
Ullapool (stage III)	Vehicle assembly area
Ullapool	Construction of a dolphin berthing structure
Mallaig	Sea bed and foreshore reclamation for vehicle marshalling area
ORKNEY	
Egilsay, phase I	Improvements to pier
Rousay	Improvement to pier
South Isles	Roll on/roll off vehicle ferry terminals
Stromness	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal for transport link with Scrabster Highland Region
Wyre	Construction of pier
SHETLAND	
Laxo	Roll on/roll off vehicle ferry terminal
Lerwick	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal
Maryfield (Bressay)	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal
Oddsta (Fetlar)	Roll on/roll off vehicle ferry terminal
Symbister (Whalsay)	Roll on/roll off vehicle ferry terminal
Vidlin	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal
STRATHCLYDE	
Ardrossan	Improvement to harbour facilities
Clyde Estuary	New deep water channels
Craignure	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal for transport link with Oban
Glasgow, King George V Dock	Expansion of computer premises and modernisation of cargo handling facilities
Greenock	Expansion of cargo handling facilities at container terminal
Oban railway pier	Roll on/roll off ferry terminal for transport link with Inner and Outer Hebrides
TAYSIDE	
Baldovie Industrial Estate	Provision of sewers
Lintrathen East trunk main	Provision of a public water supply
WESTERN ISLES	
Lochboisdale, Outer Hebrides	Roll on/roll off vehicle ferry terminal for transport link with Oban
Scalpay	Improvements to pier
TOTAL AID IN RESPECT OF 40 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS – £2,429,304	

Projects in Northern Ireland

TOTAL AID (ALL PROJECTS) – £1,823,111

Industrial projects (global applications)

Location	Project
Belfast, Ulster Crystal Ltd.	Crystal glass
Dungannon, County Tyrone, Powerscreen International Ltd.	Quarrying machinery
Newry, County Down, Associated Polymers	Thermoplastic polymers
Newry, County Down, Newry Metal Fabrications	Agricultural implements
Newry, County Down, Ulcon Ltd.	Steel freight containers

TOTAL AID IN RESPECT OF FIVE INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS – £232,001

Infrastructure projects (global applications)

Location	Project
COUNTY ANTRIM	
Ballylumford Reservoir and Lough Mourne treatment works	Treatment works to serve power station
Lisburn	Construct new trunk sewers
Larne	Construction of a new single and dual carriageway
Lisburn	Construction of 4km single carriageway
Newtownabbey	Construction of 1.5km single carriageway
COUNTY ARMAGH	
Caster Bay, Craigavon	Water treatment stages III and IV
COUNTY FERMANAGH	
Belleek Waterworks	To treat water for the hill farming areas of Belleek and Garrison
Doochrock	To supply water to areas including the hill farming areas of Lack, Ederny and Kesh
Lisnaskea No. 7	To supply water to hill farming areas of Eshnadarragh, Mullaghfad, Brookeborough, Colebrooke and Corralongford
Lisnaskea No. 8	To supply water to the hill farming areas of Armagh Manor, Coolnamarrow, Carnmore, Rosslea and Drestermman
Marble Arch Reservoir	To provide water for hill farming areas of Church Hill, Kinglass, Drumee, Old Barr, Doagh, Holywell, Florence Court, Corraglass, Lisbofin, Kinawley, Killesher, Monea, Rahalton, Derrybrusk
North West Fermanagh	To supply water to the hill farming areas of Castlecaldwell, Clonelly and Killadeas
COUNTY LONDONDERRY	
Derryarkin/Carnakilly	To supply water to areas including the hill farming area of Eglinton
Londonderry, Culmore Industrial Estate	Water mains
Moneyguiggy	To supply water to the hill farming areas of Drumsurn, Lislane and Keady
Straid/Umrycan	To supply water to the hill farming area of Banagher
COUNTY DOWN	
Kilkeel	Augment water supply
Mid Ards	Water distribution scheme

TOTAL AID IN RESPECT OF 18 INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS – £1,591,110

Projects in Wales

TOTAL AID (INDUSTRY + INFRASTRUCTURE) – £3,191,369

Industrial projects (global application) – £1,390,438

Location	Name	Industry
Cwmbran	Redifon Telecommunications Ltd.	Radio equipment
Hirwaun	GEC (Radio and Television) Ltd.	Radio, television and equipment
Glanamman	Component Industries Ltd., Abercanaid	Industrial fasteners
Tonypandy	Porth Textiles Ltd.	Artificial Christmas trees – decorations
Gwent	Takiron (UK) Ltd.	Plastic corrugated sheeting
Pontypool	DIMO Ltd.	Die casting machines
Denbigh	Barcott Containers Ltd.	Plastic containers
Caernarfon	Severnside Foods Ltd.	Shell fish
Caerphilly	Norsk Hydro (UK) Ltd.	Aluminium billets
Newport	Plessey Co. Ltd.	Electronic equipment
Caerphilly	Stadium Ltd.	Motor cycle helmets
Pontllanfraith	Penny and Giles	Studio faders
Llanberis	Royal Victoria Hotel	Accommodation
Merthyr	Head of the Valleys Hotel	Accommodation
Trearddur Bay	Trearddur Bay Hotel	Accommodation
Fishguard	Fishguard Bay Hotel	Accommodation
Maenan	Plas Maenan	Catering and accommodation
Talybont	The Lodge	Catering and accommodation
Newcastle Emlyn	Emlyn Arms Hotel	Accommodation
Montgomery Powys	Dragon Hotel	Accommodation
Llandrindod Wells	Hotel Commodore	Accommodation
Llanwrtyd Wells	Victoria Wells Mountain Centre	Accommodation and recreation complex
Libanus	Mountain Hotel	Catering and accommodation complex
Llanbedrog	Bryn Derwen Hotel	Accommodation
Bettws-y-Coed	Craig-y-Dderwen Hotel	Accommodation
Swansea	Norton House Hotel	Catering and accommodation
Porthcawl	Atlantic Hotel	Accommodation

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Projects in Wales *cont.*

Infrastructure projects (global application) – £1,800,931

Location	Responsible authority	Infrastructure
Bagillt	Delyn Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Mold	Delyn Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Rhyl	Rhuddlan Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Wrexham	Wrexham Maelor Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Coppi	Wrexham Maelor Borough Council	Provision of industrial estate
Sandycroft	Alyn and Deeside District Council	Provision of gas
Wrexham	Clwyd County Council	Improvement of access road
Capel Hendre	Dinefwr Borough Council	Provision of industrial estate
Canaston	Welsh National Water Development Authority (WNWDA)	Provision of reservoirs
Dyfed	Dyfed County Council	Provision of hangar
Springvale	Cwmbran Development Corporation	Provision of industrial site
Greenforge Way	Cwmbran Development Corporation	Provision of access road
Ty Coch	Cwmbran Development Corporation	Provision of industrial site
Cwmbran	Cwmbran DC	Provision of access road
Blaenavon	Torfaen Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Blaenavon	Torfaen Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Pontypool	Torfaen Borough Council	Provision of industrial site
Taf Fechan	WNWDA	Provision of water supply
Anglesey	Isle of Anglesey BC	Provision of industrial estate
Holyhead	Isle of Anglesey BC	Provision of industrial site
Bala	Meirionydd DC	Provision of industrial site
Tywyn	Meirionydd DC	Provision of industrial site
Porthmadog	Gwynedd CC and Dwyfor DC	Provision of industrial site
Bangor	Gwynedd CC	Provision of industrial site
Treforest	Mid Glamorgan and WNWDA	Improvement of bridge
Caerphilly	Rhymney Valley DC	Provision of site roads
Aberaman Park	Cynon Valley DC	Provision of industrial site
Brynmenyn	Ogwr BC	Provision of industrial site
Dowlais	Merthyr Tydfil BC	Provision of industrial site
Dix's Field	Merthyr Tydfil BC	Provision of industrial site
Llandrindod Wells	Radnor DC	Provision of industrial estate
Newtown	Mid Wales Development Corporation	Provision of industrial site
Newtown	Mid Wales Development Corporation	Provision of industrial estate
Welshpool	Montgomery DC	Provision of roads
Pentwyn	Cardiff City Council	Provision of industrial site
Cardiff	Cardiff City Council	Provision of industrial site
Cardiff	Cardiff City Council	Provision of industrial site

New EC Legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following directives and regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Animal feedingstuffs. Directive 76/371/EEC establishing community methods of sampling for the official control of feedingstuffs (*Official Journal* L102, 15 April 1976).

Directive 76/372/EEC establishing community methods of analysis for the official control of feedingstuffs (*Official Journal* L102, 15 April 1976).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 902/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 677/76 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system for compulsory purchase of skimmed-milk powder (*Official Journal* L104, 21 April 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 835/76 fixing the aid for skimmed milk for use as feed (*Official Journal* L107, 24 April 1976).

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal* L107, 24 April 1976, contains the following correction to Regulation (EEC) 561/76 (published in *Official Journal* L67, 15 March 1976) amending Regulation (EEC) 823/68 as regards the conditions of entry for certain kinds of cheeses falling within certain tariff headings and Regulation (EEC) 950/68 on the common customs tariff:

Page 11, first recital, fifth line:
for: 'by Regulation (EEC) 740/75[4], . . .'
read: 'by Regulation (EEC) 823/75[4], . . .'
Footnote 4 should read as follows:
'[4] *OJ* No. L79, 28.3.1975, p. 3'.

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal* L107, 24 April 1976, contains the following correction to Regulation (EEC) 566/76 (published in *Official Journal* L67, 15 March 1976) amending Regulation (EEC) 1411/71 as regards the fat content of whole milk:

Page 23, Article 2, fourth line:
for: '4. Notwithstanding the provisions of the second . . .'
read: '4. Without prejudice to the provisions of the second . . .'
Page 24, Article 2, new paragraph 8, second line:
for: 'by 1 March 1973 . . .'
read: 'by 1 March 1978 . . .'

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 922/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 438/71 laying down conditions for obtaining export refunds on wine (*Official Journal* L106, 23 April 1976).

EEC/US trade: six-monthly talks

The latest round of six-monthly consultations between the commission and the American administration was held in Brussels from 28 to 30 April.

The American delegation comprising Arthur Hartman, assistant secretary for European affairs, Joseph Greenwald, assistant secretary for economic and business affairs and Mr. Yeutter, deputy special trade negotiator, were received by Christopher Soames, the community's external affairs commissioner.

Bilateral trade questions

The two delegations were discussing questions of bilateral trade, including such subjects as special steels, the incorporation of skimmed milk powder in animal feeds and questions linked to development problems, the north/south dialogue and the forthcoming Unctad conference.

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L107, 24 April 1976, contains the texts of the following decisions:

Bananas. Decision 76/412/EEC authorising the United Kingdom not to apply community treatment to bananas, falling within subheading 08.01 B of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the dollar zone and in free circulation in the Netherlands and in Ireland.

Orange juice. Decision 76/414/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to concentrated orange juice, falling within heading ex 20.07 of the common customs tariff, originating in South Africa and in free circulation in the Federal Republic of Germany.

Textiles. Decision 76/413/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to certain men's and boys' outer garments, falling within heading ex 61.01 of the common customs tariff, originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 76/415/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to imports of printed cotton fabrics, other than gauze and terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, falling within heading ex 55.09 of the common customs tariff, originating in Hong Kong and in free circulation in the other member states.

Decision 76/416/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to woven fabrics of cotton, other than gauze and terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, unbleached, falling within heading ex 55.09 of the common customs tariff, originating in the USSR and in free circulation in the other member states.

United Kingdom trade with the EEC in 1975

In 1975 the UK's overall visible trade deficit fell by just over £2,000 million to £3,200 million. This to a large extent reflected an improvement of £1,507 million in our trading balance with the oil exporting countries. The visible balance with the developed countries as a whole – and with the EEC in particular – worsened slightly between 1974 and 1975 to £3,089 million, mainly a consequence of the recession in the industrialised world in most of 1975 (see Table 1 and the chart).

Exports to the EEC on a balance of payments basis increased in value by 13 per cent in 1975, a very similar rate to the growth of 14 per cent in imports from the EEC in the same period. Since the value of imports in 1974 was nearly 40 per cent greater than the value of exports, these rates of increase were sufficient to cause the UK's visible trade deficit with the EEC to widen further from £2,026 million in 1974 to £2,354 million in 1975 (see Table 2).

Most of the change in the UK's overall trade deficit in 1975 occurred in trade in non-oil goods (again mainly reflecting the rapid growth in exports to the oil exporting countries): the balance of trade in petroleum and petroleum products improved from £3,423 million to £3,114 million between 1974 and 1975. Our balance with the EEC in non-oil goods worsened from £1,808 million in 1974 to £2,063 million in 1975 (see Table 3).

Trade by commodity

Table 4 (see p. 378) analyses our trade with the EEC by broad commodity group. A commodity breakdown of exports and imports is not available on a balance of payments basis but the commodities contributing to the movements in the overall deficit can be seen from the 'crude' balance of trade, ie the difference between exports fob and imports cif. Although this is not a good measure of the balance of trade in goods because inter alia of differences in valuation, these crude balances provide a reasonable indication of the trends in the balances through time.

The main changes between 1974 and 1975 by SITC section have been a worsening in our crude trade deficit in food and live animals, a worsening in our deficit in fuels, and an improvement in the balance of trade in chemicals. These developments are described in more detail below.

Food and live animals

The UK's crude trade deficit with the community in food and live animals increased by £253 million between 1974 and 1975. This occurred despite an increase of 74 per cent to £456 million in the UK's export of this commodity to the EEC. Im-

TABLE 1 UK balance of trade by area: all goods

£ million, balance of payments basis

	EEC	Rest of western Europe	North America	Other developed countries	Oil exporters	Rest of world	Total
1970	+47	+179	−482	+149	−114	+196	−25
1971	−183	+118	−170	+223	−188	+480	+280
1972	−583	−37	−79	−156	−130	+283	−702
1973	−1,167	−302	−265	−203	−329	−67	−2,332
1974	−2,026	−329	−714	+93	−2,205	−84	−5,264
1975	−2,354	−54	−668	−13	−698	+588	−3,200

TABLE 2 UK balance of trade with the EEC

£ million, balance of payments basis (percentage change on previous period)

	Exports fob	Imports fob	Visible balance
1970	2,269	2,222	+47
1971	2,408 (+6)	2,591 (+17)	−183
1972	2,684 (+11)	3,267 (+26)	−583
1973	3,755 (+40)	4,922 (+51)	−1,167
1974	5,277 (+41)	7,303 (+48)	−2,026
1975	5,965 (+13)	8,319 (+14)	−2,354

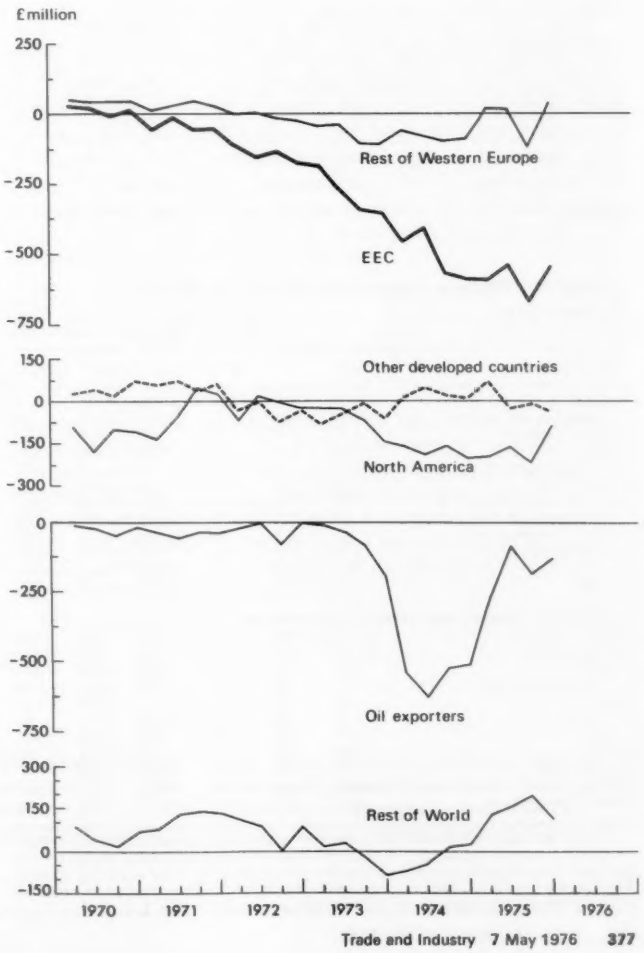
TABLE 3 UK balance of trade: non-oil goods

£ million, balance of payments basis

	EEC	Other than EEC	Total
1970	+100	+359	+459
1971	−144	+1,074	−930
1972	−534	+490	−44
1973	−1,113	−278	−1,391
1974	−1,808	−33	−1,841
1975	−2,063	+1,977	−86

Area analysis of the visible balance

Seasonally adjusted, balance of payments basis



ports of food and live animals rose by 30 per cent to £1,930 million in 1975.

Most of the increase in food exports to the EEC in 1975 was concentrated in meat (particularly beef) and cereals (particularly barley). The rise in beef exports is a national consequence of the gradual approximation of UK prices to the full community level during the period of transition. Other factors contributing to the high level of exports in 1975 were increased production in the United Kingdom and the reductions in the monetary compensatory amounts (MCAs) resulting from devaluation of the green pound.

The increase in barley exports was partly a reflection of the good 1974 UK harvest which was of higher quality, particularly for malting barley, than in other EEC member countries, and partly a reflection of the price structure for cereals at the time of the 1975 harvest. At this time world prices were high and EEC levies were low so that the accession compensatory amounts were low. This had the effect that UK prices were significantly below community prices, a situation prolonged by the pre-fixing of the levies that took place at that time. As world prices have fallen somewhat and UK prices risen our exports of barley have now eased off.

Imports of wheat from the EEC were 63 per cent greater in 1975 than in 1974. The increase was concentrated in the second half of the year and reflected a poor UK 1975 wheat harvest. In addition the EEC harvest was of exceptionally good quality and there was some substitution of our sources of supply from North America to the EEC.

Three-eighths of the rise in imports of food from the EEC in 1974 reflects a higher level of arrivals of dairy products, particularly butter. Although UK production of dairy products in the year fell demand remained at relatively high levels, in some measure reflecting the effects of the subsidies on these products. Higher imports from the EEC have helped to fill the gap.

There was a rise of £46 million in 1975 in imports of fruit and vegetables from the EEC. Part of this was due to a higher value of arrivals of apples, and part a sharp increase in imports of potatoes which took place in the second half of 1975 and was a compensation for the very poor UK 1975 potato crop. Imports of sugar from the community rose strongly in the second half of 1974 and at the beginning of 1975 as a consequence of the failure of the UK's 1974 sugar beet harvest. Through 1975, however, the value of imports fell back, so that in the second half year arrivals of refined sugar from the EEC were little over one-third level in the first six months. Between 1974 and 1975 as a whole, however, the value of imports doubled.

TABLE 4 Crude trade balance with EEC by commodity

£ million, overseas trade statistics basis

SITC (R) section	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
0 Food	−433	−504	−497	−696	−1,221	−1,474
1 Beverages and tobacco	−24	−31	−50	−111	−86	−66
2 Basic materials	+13	+25	+28	+2	+9	+28
3 Fuels	−81	−79	−103	−105	−260	−326
4 Vegetable oils, etc.	−13	−14	−11	−13	−32	−30
5 Chemicals	−20	−6	−14	−33	−109	−5
6 Other semi-manufactures	+247	+198	+147	+183	−144	−182
7 Machinery and transport	+188	+126	−73	−322	−259	−228
8 Other manufactures	+8	+3	−34	−103	−131	−129
9 Other goods	+30	+25	+28	+26	+20	+26
Total	−85	−256	−579	−1,172	−2,213	−2,386
* The crude balance in some of the major commodities was:						
Meat	−189	−208	−187	−238	−329	−310
Dairy produce	−72	−95	−103	−119	−259	−412
Cereals	−40	−45	−49	−128	−284	−263
Fruit and vegetables	−67	−68	−79	−99	−131	−174
Sugar	+3	+2	+1	−3	−68	−152
Beverages	+12	−30	−51	−113	−79	−65
Fuels	−81	−79	−103	−105	−260	−326
Plastics	−18	−25	−37	−62	−143	−62
Iron and steel	+10	−8	−28	−73	−293	−311
Machinery	+85	+82	−16	−229	−201	−190
Road motor vehicles	+67	+21	−104	−125	−92	−96

* The crude balance is the difference between exports fob (free on board) and imports cif (cost, insurance and freight). Since both sides of the account are valued at the UK port, the import figures include inter alia the cost of freight from the exporting country. Adjustments have to be made both to exports and imports to bring them on to a balance of payments basis to arrive at the visible balances shown in Tables 1-3.

Fuels

The rise in the deficit in fuel in 1975 reflected an 11 per cent increase in imports of petroleum and petroleum products, while the value of exports was virtually unchanged.

Plastic materials

Within manufactured goods there has been a marked improvement in our deficit with the EEC in plastic materials. This deficit worsened considerably in 1974, mainly due to capacity constraints in the UK at a time of high demand, and the 1975 position reflects the reversal of this; namely a lower level of demand coupled with an easing of plant difficulties.

Iron and steel

The deficit in iron and steel, which worsened considerably in 1974 as imports from the community grew by 146 per cent, largely as a result of capacity constraints in the UK steel industry at that time, remained high in 1975. A number of the contracts for imported iron and steel signed in 1974 were long-term and thus overseas manufacturers have continued as sources of supply despite the generally widespread availability of capacity in the UK in 1975. In addition some UK steel users may have been worried about the possibilities of industrial disputes in the UK causing interruptions to supply and may have seen the importing of steel as some safeguard. Some continental steel prices were also lower than UK prices in 1975.

Machinery

While the exports and imports of non-electrical machinery grew at very similar rates in 1975 (27 per cent and 26 per cent, respectively) the crude trade deficit with the community in this commodity group widened by £22 million. Both exports and imports of aircraft engines, internal combustion engines, tractors, and statistical machines grew rapidly.

The crude deficit in trade with the EEC in electrical machinery narrowed, with a particularly sharp increase in exports of electrical measuring and controlling instruments, so that our deficit in machinery as a whole with the community was slightly smaller in 1975 than in 1974.

EEC information

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Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Trade Information

Trade Secretary at Unctad IV

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, left for Nairobi on 3 May to lead the British delegation at Unctad IV – the fourth United Nations conference on Trade and Development.

Mr. Dell attended the opening days of the conference – which lasts from 5-28 May – and was expected to address the conference on 6 May.

He was also expected to have talks with other ministers before returning to London at the week-end.

Mr. Dell flew to Nairobi after attending the EEC Council of Ministers (Foreign Affairs) in Brussels.

Price control on foodstuffs in Sweden

The Swedish authorities have announced that the prices of certain groups of foodstuffs, hitherto exempted, will be frozen for one year at the prices prevailing on 25 February 1976.

British exporters may obtain an unofficial translation of the complete list of foodstuffs now subject to price control from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Nigeria: British Deputy High Commissioner, Kaduna

The street name in the address of the office of the British Deputy High Commissioner, Kaduna, has changed. The address is now: Office of the British Deputy High Commissioner, Office of the United Bank for Africa Building, Hospital Road, Kaduna.

Senegal: dry dock and shiprepair yard

As part of the development of ports infrastructure, the Government of Senegal has decided, following feasibility reports sponsored by the World Bank and others, to construct a dry dock and shiprepair yard, to be known as Dakar Marine, for tankers of up to 500,000 tonnes.

The project – estimated to cost about $150 million – will be a joint venture between the Government and a number of foreign, private investors. The elements of this investment will be:

Infrastructure: breakwaters, dredging and embankments, dry docks, 1,500m of quay, cranes, electromechanical equipment – 26,285 million CFA francs.

Superstructure: workshops, machines, warehouses, services – 7,646 million CFA francs.

Flushing and slop reclamation station – 1,069 million CFA francs.

The project will be in two stages: the first will be to build one dry dock, with a capacity of up to 500,000 tonnes, 600m of quay, and the flushing station; to be followed, if successful, by a second stage to build a further dry dock, with a capacity of up to 300,000 tonnes, and the remaining quay.

The Government of Senegal is interested principally in partners to invest in this venture. Further information is available. Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5334.

Amending order: radio relay communications equipment

Anthony Crosland, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, made the following announcement in Parliament on 29 April by Written Answer to Mr. Kevin McNamara.

> 'After careful consideration the Government have decided to bring tropospheric scatter communications equipment under general export licensing control. An Order to amend the Export of Goods (Control) Order is being made today by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Trade. Applications for the export of this equipment will be dealt with in accordance with Her Majesty's Government policy in relation to particular destinations.'

The effect of the amendment, the Export of Goods (Control) (Amendment) Order 1976, (SI 1976 No. 666) which will come into operation on 21 May 1976 will be that equipment employing tropospheric, ionospheric or meteoric scatter phenomena, and specialised test equipment therefor, and components, accessories and subassemblies specially designed for such equipments will become subject to general export licensing control.

Application for licences to export should be made to Export Licensing Branch, Department of Trade, Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB.

ECGD news

Drilling platform for Abu Dhabi. The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed a £4.4 million loan to help finance the UK portion of a £9.2 million contract awarded to Marathon Shipbuilding and Co. (UK) Ltd., by National Drilling Company of Abu Dhabi. Finance for the loan was made available to the buyer by The Royal Bank of Scotland. The contract is for a mobile, self-contained, elevating, drilling platform being built by Marathon at Clydebank. Delivery is scheduled for late 1976.

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

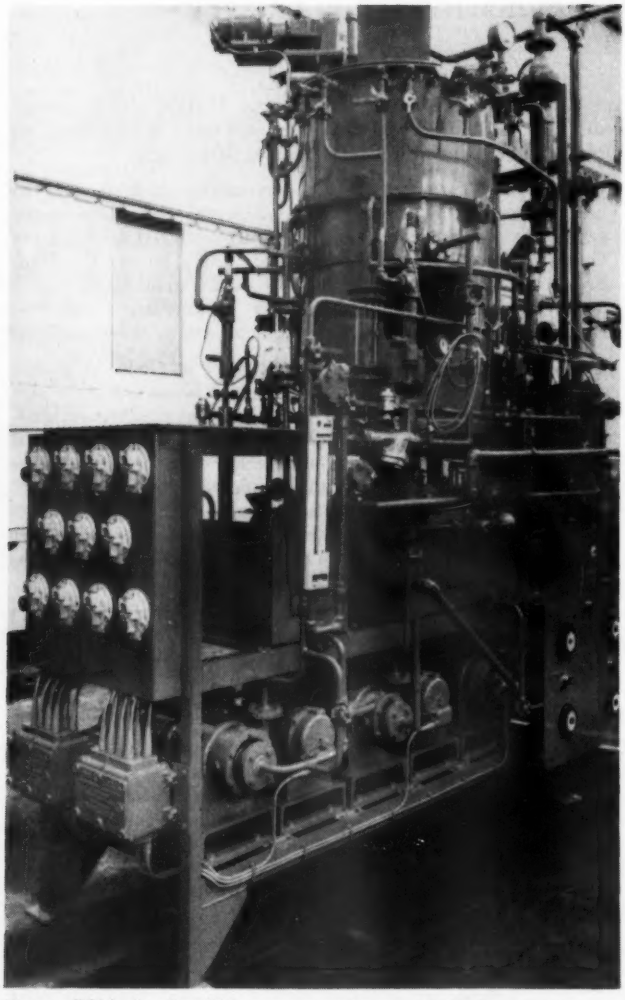
Tariff and Trade Notices

Sweden

Advertising of alcoholic beverages. An agreement between the Swedish Consumer Ombudsman and the Federation of Swedish Wholesalers has been adopted as the definitive code of practice for the advertising of alcoholic beverages (wines, liquor and strong beer).

The emphasis of the agreement, which is based on the Marketing Practices Act, is on moderation in all aspects of the advertising of alcoholic beverages. The agreement came into effect on 1 March 1976 for daily newspapers and will apply to other publications and outdoor advertising from 1 July 1976.

Further information is available from OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 459.



Huge solid blocks of rubbish, compressed to one-sixth of normal volume, are produced by this hydraulic baling press to be supplied to the city of Bergen, Norway. The press was made at Bridgend, Glamorgan by Harris-Economy Ltd., UK subsidiary of American Hoist. The £1.2 million order for conveyor and ancilliary equipment was placed with American Hoist (Europe) Ltd. and involves an £850,000 loan agreement with Hambros Bank, covered by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. When erected in Bergen, at a municipally-owned stone quarry, the press will be used on a land reclamation scheme, sinking the solid blocks of rubbish into the ground, extending the life of the rubbish dump to 20 years. The land will then be used as a recreation site.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Finland

Unroasted coffee: duty exemption. The Finnish authorities have announced that imported unroasted coffee will be temporarily exempt from import duty – until 31 July 1976. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 458/461.

Belgium

Foodstuffs regulations. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 70 of 8 April 1976 published a decree dated 19 December 1975 concerning the levels of chemical additives (including pesticidal residues) permitted in foodstuffs of vegetable origin. The decree comes into force on 1 November 1976. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 288/466/467.

Spain

Newsprint. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 26 April 1976, announced reduction to 1.5 per cent local tax levied on importation of newsprint. Tariff heading 48.01 A-1 and 48.01 A-2.

This reduction will be valid from 26 April to 25 July 1976. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 462/471/472/473.

Portugal

Hunting and recreational firearms: further information. *Trade and Industry* of 23 April 1976 published details of the exemption from import duty of parts of hunting and recreational firearms in tariff numbers 93.06.02 and 93.06.03.

Decree Law 238/76 published in *Diario do Governo* No. 82 of 6 April

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(TI 3)

West's Piling and Construction Co Ltd., Slough, is supplying a further 15,000 Hardrive pile joints to its Iraqi licensee, the State Construction Contracting Company Ltd. This will bring the total Hardrive sales to Iraq over £500,000. In the past eighteen months the company has negotiated Hardrive licences in Canada, Nigeria, Ireland and South Africa. West's will also be undertaking major overseas piling contracts from its established UK and Singapore bases. The Hardrive joint locks the steel end plates together by means of four slotted "I" shaped pins which slot into the corresponding corners of the piles being joined.

1976 announces that the exemption only applies to goods imported by Portuguese manufacturers for use in their own production. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 458/461.

Malta

Hot rolled steel bars for concrete re-inforcement. The Malta *Government Gazette*, 23 April 1976, published details of an act setting the minimum quality standards for hot rolled steel bars for the re-inforcement of concrete. Specifications cover characteristic strength of the bars, dimensions, rolling tolerances and identification marks. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/473/462.

Israel

Standards. The following Israeli Standards have now been declared official and compliance with them will be compulsory 60 days from 16 April 1976:

IS 69.1	Electric water heaters, thermostatically controlled; thermally insulated – 1976
IS 570	Portable fire extinguishers, dry powder stored, pressure type – 1976

The Standards Institution of Israel issues an English translation of the standard and copies may be obtained from British Standards Institution Library, 2 Park Street, London W1 (tel. 01-629 9000, telex 266933).

British exporters requiring advice are advised to contact Technical Help To Exporters, British Standards Institution, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 4SQ (tel. 0442-3111, telex 82424).

No further information is available.

Surcharge on meat and edible meat offals. The following amended rates of surcharge on meat and edible meat offals have been announced:

Heading	BN no.	Description	Surcharge
0021	Chapter 2	Meat and edible meat offals –	
10	02.01	Chilled or frozen –	
11	1010	Meat with bones	IL 4,500 per ton
12	1029.1028	Boneless meat, excluding liver, tongue, brain, milt, guts, fat and other internal organs	IL 4,750 per ton
20	.	Other not specified in paragraph 10, including liver, tongue, fat, brain, milt, guts and other internal organs	Special calculation*

* Special calculation – the difference between the price which the holder of the goods has obtained or is likely to obtain for them and the cost price plus reasonable expenses and profits.

Import of powdered milk. Powdered milk for the retail trade may only be imported in tins of a weight not exceeding 1 lb.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 458/461.

Tunisia

Kraft paper and paperboard: import duties. The *Tunisian Journal*, 19 March 1976, has announced that the rate of duty on Kraft paper and paperboard (BN 48.01c) will be 6 per cent until 31 December 1976. No further information is available. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461.

Fresh eggs: suspension of duties and production tax. The *Tunisian Journal*, 19 March 1976, has announced the suspension of customs duties and production tax on fresh eggs (BN 04.05B) within a quota of 14,000,000 eggs. No further information. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461.

Senegal

Dakar Industrial Free Zone: Following a decision in 1974 by the National Assembly, the government of Senegal has established an Industrial Free Zone, covering an eventual area of some 650 hectares, near Dakar. The object of the zone is to attract foreign investors to set up industries which are both labour intensive and devoted to manufacturing goods for export.

The zone will be administered by an autonomous organisation having wide discretion, and offers substantial tax and customs exemptions for firms establishing themselves within it. Also, firms will be free to transfer capital and income, in whatever form, and to recruit both local and expatriate staff.

Details on infrastructure and regulations are available from CRE: 01-215 5334.

South Africa

General rebates. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 1 April 1976:

R.567	Item 410.05, BN 22.09. The extent of rebate of duty on the specified wine spirit is amended to full duty less 53,696c per 100 litres of absolute alcohol.

REBATES, REFUNDS OF EXCISE DUTY

R.568 Item 609.04.05 and 609.04.40:

1 The provision for a rebate of the full duty less 70c per 100 litres on non-alcoholic beverages containing, by volume, less than a certain percentage of vegetable or fruit juices is withdrawn.

2 The extent of rebate of duty on cane spirits for the manufacture of gin is amended to full duty less 68,301c per 100 litres of absolute alcohol.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 471/472/473/462.

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 14/76, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 30 April 1976, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on moulded buttons of artificial plastic material classifiable under tariff subheadings 98.01.40.20 and 98.01.50.30.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 15 April 1976:

R.658 BN 18.04 and 39.07:
1 The rate of duty on cocoa butter is reduced from 360c/100kg to free.
2 The rate of duty on tents of artificial plastic material is reduced from 40 per cent to 20 per cent.

INDUSTRIAL REBATES

R.659 BN 73.38. The provision for a rebate of duty on unenamelled baths of steel, for the manufacture of porcelain enamel or baked enamel baths of a length of 135cm or more, is withdrawn.

R.660 BN 18.04. As cocoa butter is now free of duty the provisions for a rebate of duty thereon for the manufacture of cocoa and sugar confectionery and biscuits, are withdrawn.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 471/472/473/462.

Malaysia

Matches: import control. The Malaysian Government has passed the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) (Amendment) (No. 6) Order 1976 which came into force on 25 March 1976 amending the third schedule of the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) Order 1973 by adding the following:

Heading no.	Description of goods	Country
36.06 130	Matches (excluding Bengal matches) in containers holding over 20 but not over 50 matches	All countries
36.06 140	Matches (excluding Bengal matches) in containers holding over 50 but not over 75 matches	All countries
36.06 150	Matches (excluding Bengal matches) in containers over 75 matches	All countries

The third schedule lists goods prohibited from entry into Sabah, East Malaysia, without an import licence. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 401/468/469.

Australia

Cotton bedsheeting, bedlinen knitted or crocheted net fabrics and curtains: Reference to Textile Authority. The Textile Authority has received a reference on what import arrangements should apply to cotton bedsheeting, bedlinen knitted or crocheted net fabrics and curtains (tariff items 60.05.3, 62.02.7, 62.02.1, 55.09.52, 60.01.91) after 5 June 1976.

Evidence may be formally submitted at the public inquiry, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel 01-799 7447) who will represent UK interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the inquiry should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, as soon as possible. Ref. CRE 74/76. Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

ADP equipment and parts: industries Assistance Commission draft report. The Industries Assistance Commission has released a draft of its report on ADP equipment and parts. This draft has been released to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on it within the commission's public inquiry system before the report is finally settled.

In order to receive submissions on the draft the commission will hold a further public hearing at the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, 16th Floor, 59 Goulburn Street, Sydney, beginning at 9.30 am on 14 May 1976. Evidence must be formally submitted at a public hearing, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (01-799 7447) which will represent UK interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia as soon as possible.

Copies of the draft report have been forwarded to all witnesses who gave evidence on sub-industry E1 (electronic and electrical equipment) at the previous hearing. Other persons intending to make a submission at the hearing may obtain a copy of the draft report from Room 336, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

To enable the commission to examine submissions and discuss them with witnesses at the hearing, it is requested that copies of the intended submission reach the commission at least one week before the hearing – that is by 17 May 1976. Ref. CRE 2371/72. Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

New Zealand

Customs tariff amendments. Following the consideration of a Tariff and Development Board report the New Zealand Government has issued the following tariff amendments:

Tariff item	Goods		Tariff rates: Normal	British preferential	Other
	Fish, crustaceans, molluscs, and preparations thereof (No. 353) Government has decided to make the tariff amendments set out below. These changes are effective from 20 February 1976. The present import licensing allocations are not affected.				
16.04	Prepared or preserved fish, etc.: Fish preparations such as pastes, sausages, 'prepared meals' and the like:				
16.04.009	Other	per 100kg	$25.00	$25.00	Aul Free; Can, CPC } $21.50
	Fish, preserved: In airtight cans or jars, whether or not with added liquor, oil or sauce:				
16.04.015	Herrings, pilchards		Free	Free	Aul Free
16.04.016	Salmon		Free	Free	Aul Free
16.04.017	Sardines, sild, brisling		Free	Free	Aul Free
16.04.019*	Other	per 100kg	$4.58	$4.58	Aul Free; Can, DC, CPC } $2.75
16.04.039	Otherwise packed		Free	Free	Aul Free
16.05	Crustaceans and molluscs, prepared or preserved: Preparations such as pastes, sausages, 'preserved meals' and the like:				
16.05.009	Other		Free	Free	Aul Free
	Preserved:				
16.05.013	In airtight cans or jars, whether or not with added liquor, oil or sauce		Free	Free	Aul Free
16.05.019	Otherwise packed		Free	Free	Aul Free

* Note: The Board's recommendations on tariff item 16.04.019 have not been accepted and temporary duties have lapsed.

Aul Australia.
CPC Commonwealth preference countries
Can Canada.
DC Developing countries.

The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Composite) Amendment Order 1976 which came into force on 14 April 1976, amending the following tariff items:

07.01.200	07.01.302	07.01.308	07.02.001	07.02.002	07.02.009
07.02.019	07.04.002	07.04.008	07.05.001	07.05.002	07.05.029
07.05.051	07.05.059	08.05.003	08.05.009	10.07.001	10.07.009
12.01.101	12.01.109	20.01.000	20.02.001	20.02.101	20.02.102
20.02.103	20.02.104	20.02.105	20.02.109	20.02.111	20.02.119
20.02.211	20.02.219	20.02.221	20.02.229	20.02.239	20.02.289
20.02.311	20.02.312	20.02,313	20.02.314	20.02.315	20.02.319
20.06.002	20.06.003	25.23.001	25.23.009	44.05.002	44.05.009
44.05.011	44.05.019	44.05.021	44.05.029	44.05.031	44.05.032
44.05.039	44.05.111	44.05.119	44.05.121	44.05.149	44.07.000
44.09.002	44.09.009	44.11.001	44.13.009	44.13.109	70.06.000

which now read as follows:

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 7						
	Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers					
07.01	Vegetables, fresh or chilled:					
07.01.200	Tomatoes	kg	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
07.01.302	Onions per tonne	tonne	1975	$2.95	$2.95	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.01.308	Other		1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.02	Vegetables (whether or not cooked), preserved by freezing:					
07.02.003	Peas	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.02.004	Beans	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.02.008	Other	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.04	Dried, dehydrated or evaporated vegetables, whole, cut, sliced, broken or in powder, but not further prepared:					
07.04.002	Tomatoes		1975	35%	35%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.04.006	Beans, not shelled	kg	1975	35%	35%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
07.04.019	Other		1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
07.05	Dried leguminous vegetables, shelled, whether or not skinned or split:					
	Peas, split:					
07.05.003	Packed for retail sale	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul 15% Can 15% CPC 15%
07.05.029	Other peas per 100kg	kg	1975	55c	55c	Aul Free Can 44c per 100kg CPC 44c per 100kg
07.05.058	Lentils per 100kg	kg	1975	11c	11c	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 8						
	Edible fruit and nuts; peel of melons or citrus fruit					
08.05	Nuts other than those falling within heading No. 08.01, fresh or dried, shelled or not:					
	Walnuts:					
08.05.003	Packed for retail sale	kg	1975	Free	Free	
08.05.009	Otherwise packed	kg	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
CHAPTER 10						
	Cereals					
10.07	Buckwheat, millet, canary seed and grain sorghum; other cereals:					
10.07.002	Canary seed	kg	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
10.07.003	Grain sorghum	kg	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
10.07.008	Other	kg	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
CHAPTER 12						
	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial and medical plants; straw and fodder					
12.01	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit, whole or broken:					
12.01.100	Ground-nuts (peanuts)	kg	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
CHAPTER 20						
	Preparations of vegetables, fruit or other parts of plants					
20.01.000	Vegetables and fruit, prepared or preserved by vinegar or acetic acid, with or without sugar, whether or not containing salt, spices or mustard	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
20.02	Vegetables prepared or preserved otherwise than by vinegar or acetic acid:					
20.02.002	Capers and olives	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
	Other vegetables:					
20.02.121	'Baked' beans	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
20.02.131	Other beans	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
20.02.141	Mushrooms	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 12½% CPC 12½%
20.02.151	Peas	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
	Tomatoes:					
20.02.231	Pulped	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
20.02.241	Whole or in pieces	kg	1975	10%	10%	Au. Free Can Free CPC Free
20.02.251	Juice, purée and concentrate	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
20.02.261	Other kinds	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
20.02.299	Other	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
20.06	Fruit otherwise prepared or preserved, whether or not containing added sugar or spirit:					
	Nuts, roasted:					
20.06.004	Ground-nuts (peanuts); mixtures of nuts consisting principally of ground-nuts	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free
20.06.005	Cashews; mixtures of nuts consisting principally of cashews	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free
20.06.006	Other	kg	1975	Free	Free	
20.06.008	Cashews, not roasted	kg	1975	20%	20%	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
CHAPTER 25						
	Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement					
25.23	Portland cement, ciment fondu, slag cement, super-sulphate cement and similar hydraulic cements, whether or not coloured or in the form of clinker:					
25.23.002	White Portland cement, that is, containing not more than 0.5% of iron oxide; cements containing more than 30% of alumina per tonne	tonne	1975	$2.30	$2.30	Aul Free Can Free DC Free CPC Free
25.23.008	Other per tonne	tonne	1975	$3.60	$3.60	Aul $1.30 per tonne Can $1.30 per tonne CPC $1.30 per tonne
CHAPTER 44						
	Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal					
44.05	Wood sawn lengthwise, sliced or peeled, but not further prepared, of a thickness exceeding 5mm:					
	Of coniferous species:					
	Sequoia sempervirens (redwood):					
44.05.002	In lengths of not less than 7.5m and having a minimum cross-sectional area of not less than 968cm²	m³	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
44.05.009	Other sizes	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
	Pseudotsuga douglasii (Douglas fir, Oregon pine):					
44.05.011	In lengths of not less than 7.5m and having a minimum cross-sectional area of not less than 968cm²	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
44.05.019	Other sizes	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
	Thuja plicata (western red cedar):					
44.05.021	In lengths of not less than 7.5m and having a minimum cross-sectional area of not less than 968cm²	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
44.05.029	Other sizes	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
	Other kinds:					
44.05.033	In lengths of not less than 7.5m and having a minimum cross-sectional area of not less than 968cm²	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
44.05.038	Other sizes	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
	Of non-coniferous species:					
44.05.118	Hickory, *Juglans* species, oak (*Quercus*)	m^3	1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
44.05.121	*Eucalyptus* species	m^3	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Other kinds:					
44.05.149	Other	m^3	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
44.07.000	Railway or tramway sleepers of wood	m^3	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
44.09	Hoopwood; split poles; piles, pickets and stakes of wood, pointed but not sawn lengthwise; chipwood; pulpwood in chips or particles; wood shavings of a kind suitable for use in the manufacture of vinegar or for the clarification of liquids:					
44.09.003	Piles, pickets and stakes, pointed but not sawn lengthwise		1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
44.09.008	Other		1975	Free	Free	Aul Free
44.11	Drawn wood: match splints; wooden pegs or pins for footwear:					
44.11.001	Drawn wood		1975	Free	Free	
44.13	Wood (including blocks, strips and friezes for parquet or wood block flooring, not assembled), planed, tongued, grooved, rebated, chamfered, V-jointed, centre V-jointed, beaded, centre-beaded or the like, but not further manufactured:					
	Of coniferous species:					
44.13.009	Other	m^3	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Of non-coniferous species:					
44.13.109	Other	m^3	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 70						
Glass and glassware						
70.05.000	Unworked drawn or blown glass (including flashed glass), in rectangles	m^3	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

Aul Australia
Can Canada
CPC Commonwealth preference countries

The New Zealand Government has issued Customs Tariff (Composite) Amendment Order (No. 2) 1976 which came into force on 9 April 1976, amending the following tariff items:

10.02.000	10.03.009	10.04.000	10.05.000	16.01.000	16.02.002
16.02.009	21.07.021	44.21.009	44.22.003	44.22.009	92.07.001
92.07.009	92.12.001	92.12.011	92.12.012	92.12.013	92.12.019
92.12.029	92.12.039				

which now read as follows:

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July: Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	Other preferential rates of duty
CHAPTER 10						
Cereals						
10.02.000	Rye per 100kg	kg	1975	55c	55c	Aul Free Can 44c per 100kg CPC 44c per 100kg
10.03	Barley:					
10.03.009	Other per 100kg	kg	1975	10% plus 11c	10% plus 11c	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
10.04.000	Oats per 100kg	kg	1975	10% plus 22c	10% plus 22c	Aul 10% Can 10% CPC 10%
10.05.000	Maize per 100kg	kg	1975	22c	22c	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 16						
Preparations of meat, of fish, of crustaceans or molluscs						
16.01.000	Sausages and the like, of meat, meat offal or animal blood	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
16.02	Other prepared or preserved meat offal:					
16.02.003	Turkey	kg	1975	35%	35%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Other kinds:					
	Preserved in airtight cans or jars:					
16.02.011	In combination with vegetables or other food substances; meat pastes	kg	1975	25%	25%	Aul 15% Can 15% CPC 15%
16.02.019	Other	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
16.02.029	Otherwise packed	kg	1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 21						
Miscellaneous edible preparations						
21.07	Food preparations not elsewhere specified or included:					
21.07.021	Rennet, flavoured, coloured or simply prepared		1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can 10% CPC 10%
CHAPTER 44						
Wood and articles of wood; wood charcoal						
44.21	Complete wooden packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings:					
44.21.009	Other		1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
44.22	Casks, barrels, vats, tubs, buckets and other coopers' products and parts thereof, of wood, other than staves falling within heading No. 44.08:					
44.22.003	Casks, barrels, vats, tubs, buckets and other completed coopers' products		1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
44.22.009	Other		1975	10%	10%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
CHAPTER 92						
Musical instruments; sound recorders and reproducers; television image and sound recorders and reproducers, magnetic; parts and accessories of such articles						
92.07	Electro-magnetic, electrostatic, electronic and similar musical instruments (for example, pianos, organs, accordions):					
	Organs:					
92.07.002	Console	No.	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
92.07.008	Other kinds	No.	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
92.07.011	Guitars	No.	1975	20%	20%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free

Number	Description	Unit	Rates of duty effective on and after 1 July			Other preferential rates of duty
			Year	Normal tariff	British preferential	
92.07.019	Other	No.	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
92.12	Gramophone records and other sound or similar recordings; matrices for the production of records, prepared record blanks, film for mechanical sound recording, prepared tapes, wires, strips and like articles of a kind commonly used for sound or similar recording:					
	Discs:					
92.12.001	Blanks	No.	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
	Recorded:					
92.12.012	45 r.p.m.	No.	1975	27½%	27½%	Aul Free Can 17½% CPC 17½%
92.12.013	33 r.p.m.	No.	1975	27½%	27½%	Aul Free Can 17½% CPC 17½%
92.12.018	Other speeds	No.	1975	27½%	27½%	Aul Free Can 17½% CPC 17½%
	Tapes:					
92.12.021	Blank, on open reel	No.	1975	5%	5%	Aul Free Can Free CPC Free
82.12.028	Other	No.	1975	25%	25%	Aul 15% Can 15% CPC 15%
92.12.039	Other kinds		1975	27½%	27½%	Aul Free Can 17½% CPC 17½%

Aul Australia
Can Canada
CPC Commonwealth preference countries.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 401/468/469.

New Caledonia

Duty-free access. The *Official Journal* of New Caledonia, 25 March 1976, announced that, from 1 April 1976, duty-free entry would be extended to goods from the new member states of the EEC, namely the United Kingdom, the Irish Republic and Denmark.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 423.

Montserrat

Onions: import licensing. Order No. 3, 1976, of the External Trade Ordinance prohibits the importation of onions into Montserrat without a licence. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 7310/456/457.

Argentina

Foreign exchange. Central Bank Circular 628 of 5 April 1976 establishes the manner in which foreign exchange is to be negotiated. This can be summarised as follows:

Goods on List A will be negotiated wholly on the Official Market.
Goods on List B will be negotiated 65 per cent on the Official Market and 35 per cent on the Free Market.
Goods on neither list A nor list B will be negotiated 83 per cent on the Official Market and 17 per cent on the Free Market.
Freight charges, hiring of containers, insurance contracts etc. will be negotiated 65 per cent on the Official Market and 35 per cent on the Free Market.

Copies of lists A and B are available on request. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Brazil

Import procedure and import changes. The Brazilian authorities have made a number of announcements of interest to British exporters.

ALUMINIUM IMPORTS. Imports of aluminium into Brazil have been liberated for 90 days due to the currently low stocks existing in Brazil, and to ensure the continued production of items by aluminium foundries. Brazilian companies wishing to import aluminium during the 90-day period will be required to submit applications to the Sindicato das Indústrias de Fundicao do Estado for authority. There is no further information at present.

ALUMINIUM ALLOYS. COSIDER – the Council for Steel and Non-Ferrous Metals – has authorised the import of aluminium alloys for foundries. The *ad valorem* rate of import duty will be reduced from the current rate of 37 per cent to 10 per cent, in accordance with an as yet unpublished resolution. This measure will benefit the 54 companies which currently produce 80 per cent of the demand for aluminium. There is no further information available at present.

FUELS AND OILS. Declaratory Act CST-23 (*Diario Oficial*, 19 February 1976) laid down revised rates of sole tax on fuels and lubricants. Details are available from OTAR Section.

COMPUTER TAPE. Ministerio da Fazenda Declaratory Act CST-37/76 (*Diario Oficial*, 4 March 1976), reduced the manufactured goods tax on magnetic tape for computers, to 10 per cent.

GRAPE-SEED OIL. Ministerio da Fazenda Declaratory Act CST-37/76 (*Diario Oficial*, 4 March 1976), reduced the manufactured goods tax on grape-seed oil, of tariff headings 15.07.19.01 and 15.07.19.02, to 0 per cent.

CKD VEHICLES. Ministerio da Fazenda Declaratory Act CST-37/76 (*Diario Oficial*, 4 March 1976), reduced to 5 per cent the manufactured goods tax on CKD vehicles of the following headings: 87.02.07.00, 87.02.07.02, 87.02.07.04, 87.02.08.01, 87.02.08.02, 87.02.08.03.

ISOPROPYLIC ALCOHOL. Customs Policy Council Resolutions 2,730 and 2,731 (*Diario Oficial*, 16 March 1976), increased the import duty on isopropylic alcohol of tariff heading 29.04.11.00, from its current rate of 15 per cent to 45 per cent and at the same time laid down a reference price of US $378.00 per tonne cif.

BALLOTTINI. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,707 (*Diario Oficial*, 20 February 1976), laid down a reference price on 'glass micro-spheres or ballottini', under tariff heading 70.19.03.00, of US $769.00 per tonne cif.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Customs Policy Council Resolutions 2,708 and 2,709 (*Diario Oficial*, 20 February 1976), laid down reference prices on alcoholic drinks as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Reference price US $ per case of 12 bottles of 0.75l
22.02.01.99	Table wines, other	10.80
22.05.02.99	Fortified wines, other	10.80
22.05.03.99	Sparkling wines, other	10.80
22.05.99.00	Wines, other	10.80
22.05.03.01	Champagne	31.00
22.09.02.00	Rum	9.60
22.09.03.00	Vodka	15.00
22.09.08.01	Cognac	11.40

HEXONE. Customs Policy Council Resolutions 2,710 and 2,711 (*Diario Oficial*, 20 February 1976), increased the import duty on methylisobutylcetone (hexone) of tariff heading 29.13.27.00, from its current rate of 30 per cent to 60 per cent. At the same time a reference price of US $674.00 per tonne cif was laid down.

GLOBULINS. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,712 (*Diario Oficial*, 16 March 1976), made the following increases in import duty from the current rate of 9 per cent:

Tariff no.	Goods	Import duty rate
30.01.06.00	Common gammaglobulin	39%
30.01.06.00	Immune globulin for pertussis	39%
30.03.38.00	Antitetanus immune gammaglobulin	25%
30.03.38.00	Immune gammaglobulin for pertussis	39%
30.03.38.00	Common gammaglobulin	39%

POLYPROPYLENE FILM. Customs Policy Council Resolution 2,713 (*Diario Oficial*, 16 March 1976), reduced the import duty on 'polypropylene film or sheet, of a nominal thickness of up to 0.026mm, suitable for electrical condensers', of tariff heading 39.02.04.99, from its current rate of 85 per cent to 55 per cent. The concession is valid for one year from date of publication, lapsing on 16 March 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 476/474.

Chile

Motor vehicles imports: prior deposits. Chilean Central Bank Circular 2457 of 2 March 1976 reintroduces the 10,000 per cent prior deposit requirements for motor vehicle imports. Motor vehicles classified under tariff numbers 87.02.89, 87.04.89 and 87.05.89 are added to the list of permitted imports which are subject to the prior deposit of 10,000 per cent without waiver. Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted **except where** shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries inc. shipping	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,472	9,380	2,130	2,090							
Series in						£ million				£ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	425	325	68	−30	735	−25	760
1971	102	103	102	93	104	70	−148	52	−10	1,058	280	778
1972	104	109	104	82	117	−18	−175	48	−11	131	−702	833
1973	110	114	107	88	125	1064	396	102	334	−842	−2,332	1,490
1974	110	113	105	98	113	597	666	81	−68	−3,650	−5,264	1.614
1975	108	113	104	85	98	−652	−381	−104	6	−1,702	−3,200	1,498
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	109	86	130	370	166	37	51	−130	−343	213
2nd qtr.	110	113	104	83	118	308	88	3	185	−83	−414	331
3rd qtr.	110	114	107	92	120	181	46	29	47	−256	−625	369
4th qtr	109	114	107	89	132	205	96	32	51	−373	−950	577
1974 1st qtr	106	112	108	97	112	−176	−31	18	−59	−855	−1,297	442
2nd qtr.	110	112	100	96	110	295	191	43	27	−969	−1,366	397
3rd qtr.	112	113	103	97	119	373	368	3	−14	−861	−1,253	392
4th qtr.	111	114	107	101	113	105	139	17	−22	−965	−1,348	383
1975 1st qtr.	110	115	106	93	101	−176	−4	−31	−57	−435	−850	415
2nd qtr.	107	112	102	86	100	−254	−112	−54	−52	−336	−681	345
3rd qtr.	107	111	107	82	101	−156	−204	−29	60	−625	−986	361
4th qtr.	108	112	101	79	91	−66	−61	10	55	−306	−683	377
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−0.8	−1.9	−0.2	−9.9	−4.6							
on a year earlier	−3.6	−2.0	−1.2	−18.9	−17.4							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Trade	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales*	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
			monthly averages										On a balance of payments basis	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972					
£m in base year			15,895											
Series in			thousands							thousands		thousands	£ million at current price	
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	8,810	8,530
1972	102.6	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	855.0	3.7	147.3	9,141	9,843
1973	110.2	110.9	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	11,772	14,104
1974	106.1	107.8	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.5●	2.6●	302.2●	15.895	21,159
1975	100.9	101.4	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	4.0	148.2●	18,772	21,972
1974 2nd qtr.	107.6	109.3	107.8	105	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.3	577.4	2.5	318.4	4,007	5,373
3rd qtr.	107.9	109.6	111.2	107	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	613.7	2.6	308.7	4,222	5,475
4th qtr.	104.7	105.6	111.3	97	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,185	5,533
1975 1st qtr.	104.6	106.1	111.3	108	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	737.9	3.2	..	4,532	5,382
2nd qtr.	99.8	100.0	108.9	94	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.3	847.4	3.6	164.4	4,479	5,160
3rd qtr.	99.5	99.9	105.5	103	139.4	26.6	239.3	193.4	185.5	1,000.0	4.3	133.6	4,635	5,621
4th qtr.	99.8	99.8	105.8	85	144.2	25.3	256.0	199.1	193.8	1,132.1	4.9	113.6	5,126	5,809
1976 1st qtr.			107.7p	106	149.4	22.5	265.9 p	206.8 p	205.3 p	1,223.2	5.2	115.5	5,444 p	5,882 p
1975 Apr.	101.1	101.4	120.0	95	129.1	21 7	222.9	182.5	170.1	798.3	3.4	180.8	1,379	1,729
May	99.1	99.1	103.7	95	134.5	25.0	226.2	187.3	176.4	850.3	3.6	163.3	1,611	1.693
June	99.1	99.4	104.1	91	137.1	26 1	227.7	189.0	182.6	893.5	3.8	149.0	1,489	1,738
July	100.1	100.6	105.4	91	138.5	26.3	233.2	191.7	184.8	968.2	4.1	133.9	1,567	1,943
Aug.	98.5	98.8	104.8	98	139.3	26.9	241.4	193.5	185.6	997.4	4.3	135.9	1,486	1,886
Sept.	100.0	100.3	106.1	120	140.5	26.6	243.2	194.9	186.0	1,034.4	4.4	131.1	1,582	1,792
Oct.	100.2	100.5	104.8	85	142.5	25.9	252.3	197.0	187.5	1,088.7	4.7	118.9	1,728	1,945
Nov.	100.2	100 5	105.2	81	144.2	25.2	256.7	198.9	195.6	1,133.0	4.9	111.8	1,637	1,918
Dec.	98.8	98.5	107.0	87	146.0	24.9	259.0	201.5	198.2	1,174.6	5.0	110.1	1,761	1,946
1976 Jan.	100.5	101.7	109.8	115	147.9	23.4	261.0	204.8	202.0	1,210.5	5.2	111.1	1,778	1,951
Feb.	101.4	101.4	107.1	101	149.8	22.9	263.4 p	207.2 p	206.3	1,232.4	5.3	113.5	1,759	2,005
Mar.			106½ p	101	150.6	21.2	273.2 p	208.4 p	207.7	1,226.6	5.3	122.0	1,907 p	1926 p
Apr.										1,233.8p	5.3	123.9		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+0.1	+0.1	+1.8	+25.4	+3.3		+3.9	+3.9	+6.0	+5.0		+7.9	+6	+1¼
on a year earlier	−4.0	−5.3	−3.2	−1.7	+22.5		+20.3	+17.5	+25.5	+60.6		−37.3	+20	+9½

p Provisional * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available
● Average of 11 months

Insolvencies in England and Wales during the first quarter of 1976

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half	* five week period
the final digit shown	• fifty-three week
p provisional	period

After allowing for seasonal variation, company liquidations continued to rise in the first quarter of 1976, having increased continuously since mid-1973, and they again reached their highest level since at least the beginning of 1960. Receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) rose in the first quarter, partly offsetting the fall, after seasonal adjustment, in the previous quarter, so that they remained at a high level.

Table 1 shows that, after seasonal adjustment, there were about 1,530 company liquidations in the first quarter of 1976, made up of about 690 compulsory liquidations and 840 creditors' voluntary liquidations. The total is about 5 per cent higher than in the previous quarter and about 26 per cent higher than in the first quarter of 1975. Before seasonal adjustment, there were 1,558 company liquidations in the first quarter of 1976, made up of 691 compulsory liquidations and 867 creditors' voluntary liquidations.

Table 1 also shows that, after seasonal adjustment there were about 1,840 receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) made in the first quarter of 1976, a rise of about 6 per cent compared with the previous quarter but a fall of about 1 per cent compared with the first quarter of 1975. Before seasonal adjustment, the figure for receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) in the first quarter of 1976 was 1,919.

The chart, which illustrates the quarterly seasonally adjusted figures since the beginning of 1968, shows that there was a general fall in the number of insolvencies from mid-1970 to mid-1973 followed by a sharp rise. The number of receiving orders has generally levelled off since the beginning of 1975, but there is as yet no sign of any levelling off in the total of company liquidations.

Industrial analysis

Table 2 gives the industrial analysis of receiving orders administered (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) up to the fourth quarter of 1975. This table excludes orders that were rescinded before the business of the debtor could be investigated and deeds that were voided; the figures therefore do not agree with those in Table 1, which are for all receiving orders, administration orders,

TABLE 1 Insolvencies

England and Wales — Number

	Bankruptcies					Company liquidations					
	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted			Seasonally adjusted		
	Total	Receiving orders	Administration orders	Deeds of arrangement	Total	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary
1968	4,298	4,123	27	148		3,165	1,108	2,057			
1969	4,772	4,532	20	220		3,510	1,181	2,329			
1970	5,087	4,878	29	180		3,689	1,269	2,420			
1971	4,793	4,630	13	150		3,506	1,166	2,340			
1972	4,337	4,225	19	93		3,063	1,150	1,913			
1973	3,917	3,805	12	100		2,575	1,080	1,495			
1974	5,718	5,595	13	110		3,720	1,395	2,325			
1975	7,271	7,123	20	128		5 398	2,287	3,111			
1968 1st quarter	1,231	1,190		41	1,121	897	307	590	850	287	563
2nd quarter	1,024	985		39	1,040	775	279	496	772	271	501
3rd quarter	932	907		25	1,020	586	148	438	731	270	461
4th quarter	1,111	1,068		43	1,117	907	374	533	812	280	532
1969 1st quarter	1,231	1,173		58	1,135	872	318	554	824	296	528
2nd quarter	1,095	1,055		40	1,094	871	308	563	864	298	566
3rd quarter	1,215	1,157		58	1,319	798	171	627	957	305	652
4th quarter	1,231	1,167		64	1,224	969	384	585	865	282	583
1970 1st quarter	1,314	1,273		41	1,236	981	318	663	942	305	637
2nd quarter	1,321	1,280		41	1,308	966	339	627	971	335	636
3rd quarter	1,219	1,174		45	1,324	744	169	575	893	303	590
4th quarter	1,233	1,180		53	1,219	998	443	555	883	326	557
1971 1st quarter	1,171	1,145		26	1,116	760	310	450	731	299	432
2nd quarter	1,253	1,205		48	1,230	945	285	660	945	280	665
3rd quarter	1,137	1,092		45	1,238	777	172	605	920	302	618
4th quarter	1,232	1,201		31	1,209	1,024	399	625	910	285	625
1972 1st quarter	1,222	1,197		25	1,180	877	291	586	856	288	568
2nd quarter	1,200	1,175		25	1,177	799	293	506	804	293	511
3rd quarter	866	844		22	950	614	160	454	746	280	466
4th quarter	1,049	1,028		21	1,030	773	406	367	657	289	368
1973 1st quarter	1,011	982		29	973	710	273	437	700	275	425
2nd quarter	952	919		33	931	653	308	345	660	312	348
3rd quarter	875	858		17	961	463	130	333	574	230	344
4th quarter	1,079	1,058		21	1,052	749	369	380	641	263	378
1974 1st quarter	1,322	1,296		26	1,269	713	264	449	701	266	435
2nd quarter	1,341	1,314		27	1,307	844	309	535	849	312	537
3rd quarter	1,377	1,355		22	1,515	829	224	605	1,018	394	624
4th quarter	1,678	1,643		35	1,627	1,334	598	736	1,152	423	729
1975 1st quarter	1,938	1,900		38	1,861	1,238	540	698	1,218	541	677
2nd quarter	1,816	1,783		33	1,774	1,317	593	724	1,323	595	728
3rd quarter	1,719	1,693		26	1,893	1,138	279	859	1,391	507	884
4th quarter	1,798	1,767		31	1,743	1,705	875	830	1,466	644	822
1976 1st quarter	1,919	1,889		30	1,843	1,558	691	867	1,535	692	843

TABLE 2 Industrial analysis of receiving orders administered[1]

England and Wales

Industry	Numbers							Percentages						
			1974	1975						1974	1975			
	1974	1975	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1974	1975	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.
Self-employed														
Agriculture	90	167	36	34	37	28	68	1.7	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.4	1.9	3.3
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	4	2	3	—	—	—	2	0.1	—	0.2	—	—	—	0.1
Chemicals	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metals and engineering	45	75	9	11	14	17	33	0.8	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.1	1.6
Textiles and clothing	35	42	6	6	8	8	20	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	1.0
Timber and furniture	36	43	16	12	12	9	10	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.5
Paper, printing and publishing	21	23	12	2	9	3	9	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.4
Other manufacturing	11	13	5	5	—	4	4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	—	0.3	0.2
Total manufacturing	152	199	51	36	43	41	79	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.1	2.8	2.8	3.9
Construction	1,056	1,543	288	437	367	283	456	19.9	22.6	16.0	25.1	23.5	19.1	22.4
Road haulage	342	458	126	114	88	96	160	6.4	6.7	7.0	6.6	5.6	6.5	7.9
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	42	54	—	16	15	9	14	0.8	0.8	—	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.7
Non-consumer goods	55	68	18	21	11	12	24	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.7	0.8	1.2
Retailing:														
Food	345	379	113	95	79	75	130	6.5	5.6	6.3	5.5	5.1	5.1	6.4
Non-food	576	718	240	167	148	146	257	10.8	10.5	13.3	9.6	9.5	9.8	12.6
Finance and professional services	237	306	23	69	74	72	91	4.5	4.5	1.3	4.0	4.7	4.8	4.5
Hotels and restaurants	213	291	76	58	55	71	107	4.0	4.3	4.2	3.3	3.5	4.8	5.3
Garages	198	307	64	62	41	50	154	3.7	4.5	3.6	3.6	2.6	3.4	7.6
Other consumer services	195	220	21	45	54	47	74	3.7	3.2	1.2	2.6	3.5	3.2	3.6
Other industries	31	80	8	19	12	10	39	0.6	1.2	0.4	1.1	0.8	0.7	1.9
Total	3,532	4,790	1,064	1,173	1,024	940	1,653	66.5	70.2	59.0	67.5	65.7	63.3	81.1
Other individuals														
Employees, no occupation and unemployed	1,485	1,511	604	456	431	450	174	27.9	22.2	33.5	26.2	27.6	30.3	8.5
Directors and promoters of companies	244	405	127	83	69	67	186	4.6	5.9	7.0	4.8	4.4	4.5	9.1
Occupation unknown	53	115	7	27	35	28	25	1.0	1.7	0.4	1.6	2.2	1.9	1.2
Total	1,782	2,031	738	566	535	545	385	33.5	29.8	41.0	32.5	34.3	36.7	18.9
All receiving orders administered	5,314	6,821	1,802	1,739	1,559	1,485	2,038	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note:

(1) Receiving orders made during the year, *less* those consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year, together with administration orders and deeds of arrangement on the same basis. The totals for all receiving orders administered are thus not equal to the totals shown in Table 1. The construction of the quarterly figures is explained in the notes at the end of the article.

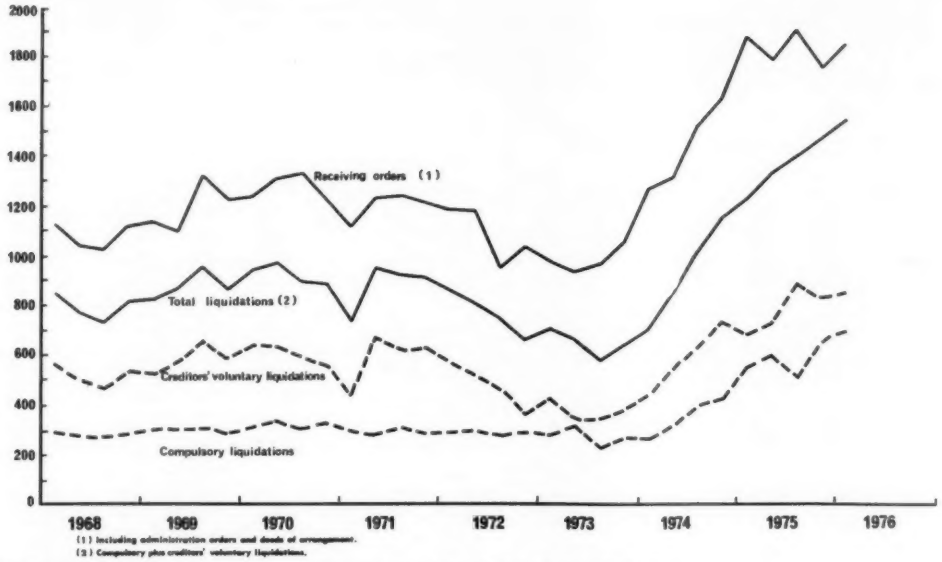
TABLE 3 Industrial analysis of total compulsory and creditors' voluntary liquidations

England and Wales

Industry	Numbers							Percentages						
			1974	1975						1974	1975			
	1974	1975	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1974	1975	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.
Agriculture	16	48	6	6	13	16	13	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.5	1.0	1.4	0.8
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	62	62	17	20	9	18	15	1.7	1.1	1.3	1.6	0.7	1.6	0.9
Chemicals	33	53	11	11	5	19	18	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.4	1.7	1.1
Metals and engineering	323	400	99	90	99	95	116	8.7	7.4	7.4	7.3	7.5	8.3	6.8
Textiles and clothing	171	230	54	37	63	56	74	4.6	4.3	4.0	3.0	4.8	4.9	4.3
Timber and furniture	124	114	42	35	31	22	26	3.3	2.1	3.1	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.5
Paper, printing and publishing	124	207	54	46	44	43	74	3.3	3.8	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.8	4.3
Other manufacturing	109	209	42	48	41	42	78	2.9	3.9	3.1	3.9	3.1	3.7	4.6
Total manufacturing	946	1,275	319	287	292	295	401	25.4	23.6	23.9	23.2	22.2	25.9	23.5
Construction	776	956	269	240	277	182	257	20.9	17.7	20.2	19.4	21.0	16.0	15.1
Road haulage	213	304	73	71	76	83	74	5.7	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.8	7.3	4.3
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	130	143	56	37	34	30	42	3.5	2.6	4.2	3.0	2.6	2.6	2.5
Non-consumer goods	191	318	74	95	73	68	82	5.1	5.9	5.5	7.7	5.5	6.0	4.8
Retailing:														
Food	81	119	24	23	28	31	37	2.2	2.2	1.8	1.9	2.1	2.7	2.2
Non-food	270	441	93	103	100	79	159	7.3	8.2	7.0	8.3	7.6	6.9	9.3
Financial and professional services	612	908	214	219	210	188	291	16.5	16.8	16.0	17.7	15.9	16.5	17.1
Hotels and restaurants	136	157	57	33	43	37	44	3.7	2.9	4.3	2.7	3.3	3.3	2.6
Garages	74	123	25	26	41	17	39	2.0	2.3	1.9	2.1	3.1	1.5	2.3
Other consumer services	81	184	41	28	39	37	80	2.2	3.4	3.1	2.3	3.0	3.3	4.7
Other industries	194	422	83	70	91	75	186	5.2	7.8	6.2	5.7	6.9	6.6	10.9
Total	3,720	5,398	1,334	1,238	1,317	1,138	1,705	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Insolvencies in England and Wales

Number per quarter, seasonally adjusted



(1) Including administration orders and deeds of arrangement. (2) Compulsory plus creditors' voluntary liquidations.

and deeds of arrangement that were made. The quarterly data tend to vary considerably from quarter to quarter though there is a tendency for certain groups, eg construction, always to form a large proportion of the total. The compilation of the data for the fourth quarter of each year differs from that for the first three quarters. For these reasons it is preferable in this article to look at changes on an annual basis. The table shows that there was little change in the industrial analysis between 1974 and 1975. Receiving orders for self-employed individuals rose slightly in 1975 to 70 per cent of the total, within which about 3 per cent were in manufacturing and 18 per cent in distribution, very much the same as in the previous year. There was a slight rise in the percentage in construction and this remained the largest single category at about 23 per cent of the total. Over the longer term there has been a tendency for the proportion accounted for by individuals other than self-employed to vary, falling slightly between 1969 and 1971 and rising steeply thereafter, though there are signs of a decline in the proportion during 1975.

Table 3 gives the industrial analysis of company liquidations up to the fourth quarter of 1975. Comparing the fourth quarter of 1975 with the previous quarter, there were slight falls in the percentages in manufacturing and in road haulage and slight rises in the percentages in non-food retailing and in other industries; the other changes were very small. Comparing 1975 as a whole with the previous year, the largest change was a fall of just over 3 per cent in construction; there was a slight fall in manufacturing; the largest rise was of about 3 per cent in other industries; again, the other changes were very small.

Such changes in the industrial analyses should not be regarded as significant, if only because of the difficulty of making precise industrial classification in many cases and the erratic nature of the series.

High Court and County Court figures

The figures for receiving and administration orders and compulsory liquidation winding-up orders made in the High Court and County Courts during the first quarter of 1976 and the four preceding quarters are as follows:

	1975				1976
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.
Receiving and administration orders					
High Court	458	445	334	498	378
County Courts	1,442	1,338	1,359	1,269	1,511
Total	1,900	1,783	1,693	1,767	1,889
Compulsory liquidation winding-up orders					
High Court	446	461	175	746	556
County Courts	94	132	104	129	135
Total	540	593	279	875	691

Notes

An article describing these statistics and giving quarterly figures from the beginning of 1960 to the end of 1974 (with industrial analyses from the beginning of 1969 to the third quarter of 1974) was published in *Economic Trends* for March 1975.

The figures for bankruptcies in Table 1 refer to persons, who are dealt with under the Bankruptcy Act 1914 and the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Act 1926 or who make arrangements with their creditors under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914. A receiving order is made by the court on the petition of a creditor if it is satisfied that the debtor has committed an act of bankruptcy, as listed in Section 1 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, or on the petition of the debtor himself. The order makes the official receiver, who is an officer of the court, receiver of the debtor's estate and deprives the debtor of the right to deal with it. Administration orders, which are made under Section 130 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, relate to deceased insolvents. Deeds of arrangement relate to arrangements between debtors and creditors that are reached, without recourse to the courts, under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914.

Insolvent partnerships are dealt with under the Bankruptcy Acts and are included in the figures for receiving orders in Table 1. A single receiving order may be made against a partnership or receiving orders may be made against partners individually, when each is included in Table 1. If separate receiving orders are made, they are consolidated before being proceeded with and appear as a single receiving order in Table 2.

Receiving orders administered, referred to in Table 2, are those receiving orders not consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year. For the first three quarters of the year the industrial analysis in Table 2 is compiled about two months after the end of the quarter, to allow time for the statistics to be collected. Some of these receiving orders may later be rescinded. The analysis for the fourth quarter is obtained by subtracting the figures for the first three quarters from the figures for the full year. The industrial analysis for the full year takes account of revisions to the figures for the first three quarters and these are reflected in the analysis for the fourth quarter. It is therefore not appropriate to compare the industrial analysis for the fourth quarter with the analyses for the earlier quarters of the year.

Insolvent companies are dealt with under the Companies Acts 1948 and 1967 and the figures for company liquidations in Table 1 refer to the two types of liquidation that involve insolvency. The figures for compulsory liquidations relate to winding-up orders made by the courts. The figures for creditors' voluntary liquidations, in which the company and its creditors come to terms without court proceedings, relate to notifications of resolutions to wind up. There is a third type, members' voluntary liquidations; these do not involve insolvency and they are not included in the figures in this article.

There is considerable seasonal variation between quarters in the insolvency series, mainly because about 25 per cent of all receiving orders and about 80 per cent of all compulsory liquidations are dealt with by the High Court, which has fewer sittings in the third quarter compared with other quarters because of the long vacation. For receiving orders, the seasonal fall in the third quarter is made up in each of the other quarters approximately equally. Compulsory liquidations are more strongly seasonal, with a large fall in the third quarter followed by a large rise in the fourth. Creditor's voluntary liquidations are not particularly seasonal but seasonally adjusted figures for them are included in Table 1.

Questions are often asked about the distribution of insolvencies by size or by region but it would be impracticable or very costly to assemble statistics of this sort. There is no satisfactory measure of the size of an insolvency because a business tends to decline over a period and there are the problems of deciding for what time the size should be assessed and what measure should be used, and of obtaining this information retrospectively.

For regional statistics of bankruptcy, figures for receiving orders dealt with in the various courts provide some basis because cases are transferred to the court for the area in which the debtor lives or has his place of business. Annual figures for receiving orders analysed by court are given in the Bankruptcy General Annual Report. Regional statistics of company liquidations cannot be obtained in this way, because of the large proportion of cases dealt with by the High Court. There is also the difficulty that, although the address of the company's registered office may be known, the activities of the company are often located elsewhere and often extend over a wide area.

Production of man-made fibres in January

In the three months ended January 1976 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 7 per cent more than in the three months ended in October 1975. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in January 1976 was 27 per cent higher than in January 1975, output of continuous filament increased by 32 per cent and staple fibre increased by 22 per cent.

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1974, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1975 are incorporated.

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Man-made fibre production Thousand metric tons

		Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968		539.1	241.8	297.4
1969		553.9	252.5	301.5
1970		599.4	257.6	341.9
1971		613.1	276.4	336.7
1972		626.5	264.0	362.5
1973		730.8	305.6	425.3
1974		627.6	271.0	356.6
1975		562.5	246.5	316.0
1974	1st quarter	174.0	69.9	104.1
	2nd quarter	175.1	71.7	103.4
	3rd quarter	149.9	67.1	82.7
	4th quarter	128.6	62.3	66.3
1975	1st quarter	129.1	56.4	72.7
	2nd quarter	148.8	61.9	86.9
	3rd quarter	134.1	58.5	75.7
	4th quarter	150.4	69.7	80.7
1974	October	50.7	25.2	25.5
	November	43.1	20.7	22.4
	December	34.7	16.4	18.3
1975	January	42.1	18.2	24.0
	February	42.6	17.6	25.0
	March	44.3	20.6	23.7
	April	48.1	20.0	28.1
	May	53.6	22.3	31.4
	June	47.0	19.6	27.4
	July	47.0	19.3	27.7
	August	40.8	17.9	22.8
	September	46.3	21.2	25.1
	October	55.1	24.0	31.1
	November	49.1	23.6	25.5
	December	46.2	22.1	24.1
1976	January	53.3	24.1	29.2

Index of the volume of production 1970 = 100

		Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1968		87	
1969		92	
1970		100	
1971		106	
1972		107	
1973		127	
1974		111	
1975		101	
1974	1st quarter	120	118
	2nd quarter	119	116
	3rd quarter	109	116
	4th quarter	96	95
1975	1st quarter	92	91
	2nd quarter	104	101
	3rd quarter	96	101
	4th quarter	112	111
1974	October	116	110
	November	99	97
	December	74	77
1975	January	85	83
	February	95	97
	March	96	93
	April	103	102
	May	111	109
	June	98	93
	July	95	100
	August	89	99
	September	103	105
	October	116	110
	November	114	112
	December	105	110
1976	January	116	113

Business names and limited partnerships in Great Britain in 1975

During the year ended 31 December 1975 there were 97,826 new registrations under the Registration of Business Names Act 1916 (as amended by the Companies Act 1948). A total of 10,607 statements showing changes in particulars were filed during the period and 15,476 names were removed from the Register.

There were 59 new registrations under the Limited Partnership Act 1907.

British Film Fund Agency returns

The British Film Fund Agency has authorised the publication of the following information for the four weeks ended 27 March 1976.

Distributor's earnings submitted	£
Low cost films:	
Eligible (after multiplying by 2¼)	61,043
Not eligible for 2¼ times rental	14,398
	75,441
High cost films (including newsreels after multiplying by 2¼)	436,549
	511,990
Films under 3,000 ft (after multiplying by 2¼)	113,846
	625,836
Levy collections paid to the Agency by HM Customs and Excise to 6 April 1976 including an estimate of collections approximately covering entertainments for the four weeks ended 27 March 1976	416,000

The fifth interim allocation for the nineteenth year will be at the rate of 55 per cent.

Business Monitors

The following titles and issues of Business Monitors are now available:

Production series

Monthly at £2.22 each a year post free:

PM 481 Paper and paper making materials for February 1976

Quarterly at 74p each a year post free:

PQ 271 General chemicals for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 276.1 Synthetic resins and plastics materials for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 279.5 Printing ink for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 323 Miscellaneous non-ferrous metals for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 333.1 Pumps for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 365.2 Broadcast receiving and sound reproducing equipment for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 381.2 Trailers, caravans and freight containers for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 383 Aerospace products for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 391 Hand tools and implements for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 399.1 Metal furniture for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 399.2 Metal windows and door frames for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 399.6 Metal hollow-ware for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 413 Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 419 Carpets for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 422.2 Canvas goods and sacks and other made-up textiles for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 429.1 Asbestos for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 441 Weatherproof outerwear for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 445 Women's and girls' light outerwear, lingerie, infants' wear, etc., for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 461.2 Clay building bricks and other non-refractory goods for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 485 Newspapers and periodicals for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 494.3 Sports equipment for fourth quarter 1975

Business Monitors in the Production series and Miscellaneous series, and certain Monitors (Nos. SD 1 to SD 9) in the Service and Distributive series, are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2973; telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of the titles of Business Monitors is available on application. Back issues of the monthly and quarterly Monitors cost 30p a copy post free. The annual Monitors are individually priced and the cost of these will be supplied on request. Exceptionally, copies can also be purchased over the counter at the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

The Annual Census of Production Reports (the PA series of Monitors), and the 1971 Census of Distribution Reports (which are being published as Monitors SD 10 to SD 23, though not all are yet available) can be obtained on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Business Monitor – Annual Census of Production 1970 – summary and enterprise tables

Business Monitor C154, the final part of the Report on the Census of Production 1970, has recently become available. In addition to a number of tables summarising results previously published in the separate industry monitors (C2 to C153) there is a set of tables analysing the census data by enterprise. Besides analyses of enterprises by size of employment and net output (last published for the 1968 Census in part 158) there are tables summarising data for the 100 largest enterprises in manufacturing industries (Orders II-XIX of the Standard Industrial Classification (revised) 1968) by employment, and by net output.

The Business Monitors can be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH (tel. 01-928 6977), or can be purchased from Government Bookshops, price £3.80.

Further information on this Business Monitor and on the Census generally can be obtained from: R. J. Egerton, Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG, Newport 56111 (STD Code 0633), ext. 2455.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 30 April 1976.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Review No. 8 (29th Year)	BR/E 38570/2/5/81	9	27 April	Data Film Distributors Ltd.	National Coal Board
The Swordsman	BR/E 38573/2/5/81	94	30 April	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Lindsay Shonteff Film Productions Ltd.
The Homecoming	BR/E 38574/2/5/81	114	30 April	Seven Keys Ltd.	The Ely Landau Organization Ltd.
Movietone News 2447	BR/E 38355/2/5/81	8	30 April	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			COMMUNITY		
Highway Through The Bedroom	EC 38572/2/5/81	102	29 April	Gala Film Distributors Ltd.	Palladium, Copenhagen
			FOREIGN		
The Diamond Mercenaries	F 38566	105	26 April	Seven Keys Ltd.	Michelangelo Transactions Ltd., Zurich
Order To Kill	F 38567	95	26 April	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	Tecisa, Madrid, BRC Produzione Film SrL, Rome and Productora Filmica Dominican, Dominican Republic
All The President's Men	F 38568	138	26 April	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Wildwood Enterprises Inc., New York
Lies My Father Told Me	F 38569	102	27 April	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd.	Pentimento Productions Ltd. and Pentacle 8VIII Ltd., Toronto
Stubby (Fimpen)	F 38571	87	29 April	Connoisseur Films Ltd.	Bo Widerberg Film, Stockholm

Amendment to the Register
The registration number of the film 'The AntiChrist', registered on 11 March 1976, has been amended to EC 38491/14/3/81.

Regional development grant payments

Companies which have received one or more payments of regional development grant of over £25,000 in the quarter ended 31 March 1976 are shown below. The table is drawn up on a regional basis according to the location of the premises in respect of which the grants were paid. The amounts shown against each premises are in some cases individual payments and in some cases the total of a number of separate payments each individually exceeding £25,000. (The list of payments made in the last quarter of 1975 appeared in *Trade and Industry* dated 5 March 1976).

Name of company	Place of premises	Grant (£'000)
SOUTH WEST		
Compair Construction and Mining Ltd.	Camborne	36
Cornwall Tin and Mining Corporation	Truro	188
Spanboard Ltd.	South Molton	71
Stafford Miller Ltd.	Plymouth	43
EAST MIDLANDS		
Forman Hardy Holdings Ltd.	Sutton-in-Ashfield	48
YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE		
Batchelors Foods Ltd.	Worksop	62
British Rail Engineering Ltd.	York	35
British Steel Corporation	Rotherham	200
British Steel Corporation	Scunthorpe	698
British Steel Corporation	Sheffield	966
Bunzl Adhesive Materials	Seamer, Scarborough	93
Ciba-Geigy Chemicals Ltd.	Grimsby	35
Coca-Cola Bottlers (Scotland and Northern) Ltd.	Pudsey	46
Cotex Ltd.	Hessle	31
Crosrol Ltd.	Halifax	79
J. B. Eastwood	Selby	57
McBain International Ltd.	Scarborough	51
Oak Bridge Co. Ltd.	Stockbridge, Sheffield	58
Portakabin Ltd.	York	85
Portasilo Ltd.	York	38
Redfearn National Glass Ltd.	Barnsley	104
Tait Fabrications Ltd.	Cleckheaton	25
Tinsley Wire Industries Ltd.	Sheffield	101
Whitworth Hall Carpets Ltd.	Batley	65
NORTH WEST		
Albright and Wilson Ltd.	Widnes	61
Allied Mills Ltd.	Seaforth	26
Ashley Aluminium Ltd.	Winsford	83
Associated Biscuits Ltd.	Huyton	67
Associated Lead Manufacturers Ltd.	Bootle	74
Austin Packaging Group Ltd.	Bromborough	210
Bass Ltd.	Runcorn	697
BICC Ltd.	Prescot	28
British American Tobacco Co. Ltd.	Liverpool	61
British Insulated Callenders Cables Ltd.	Prescot	232
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Leyland	345
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Liverpool	56
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.	Capenhurst	150
British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co. Ltd.	Birkenhead	48
British Salt Ltd.	Middlewich	29
Bryant and May Ltd.	Garston	97
Burmah Oil Trading Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	144
Cabot Carbon Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	32
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd.	Birkenhead	417
Cascade Electrolite Ltd.	Radcliffe	37
Celmac Plasclip Ltd.	Hyde	36
Champion Sparking Plug Co. Ltd.	Upton	35
Ciba-Geigy (UK) Ltd.	Manchester	35
Clayton Aniline Co. Ltd.	Manchester	43
Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.	Crewe	26
Courtaulds Ltd.	Aintree	28
Courtaulds Ltd.	Skelmersdale	67
Crown Decorative Products Ltd.	Darwen	84
Electric Power Storage Ltd.	Bolton	117
Evans Medical Ltd.	Speke	109
Fibreglass Ltd.	St. Helens	145
Fisons Ltd.	Widnes	46
Food Industries Ltd.	Bromborough Port	29
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Halewood	322
Geo. L. Scott and Co. Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	40
Girling Ltd.	Bromborough	36
Gomme Holdings Ltd.	Nelson	42
Higsons Brewery Ltd.	Liverpool	42
H. J. Heinz Co. Ltd.	Wigan	29
Hygena Ltd.	Kirkby	40
Ilford Ltd.	Mobberley	38
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Macclesfield	27
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn	553
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Thornton – Blackpool	37
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Widnes	95
Ingersoll-Rand Co. Ltd.	Trafford Park	123
Ingersoll-Rand Co. Ltd.	Wigan	166
John Dickinson and Co. Ltd.	Kirkby	75
Leathers Chemical Co. Ltd.	St. Helens	34
Lever Brothers Ltd,	Port Sunlight	132
Lilly Industries Ltd.	Speke	37
Liverpool Web Offset Ltd.	Bootle	69
Manchester Steel Ltd.	Manchester	219
Matthew Brown and Co. Ltd.	Blackburn	59
McKechnie Chemicals Ltd.	Widnes	28
Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd.	Stockport	42
National Coal Board	St. Helens	30
Northgate Group Ltd.	Aintree	26
Peerless Refining Co. (L'Pool) Ltd.	Bootle	32
Pilkington Brothers Ltd.	St. Helens	327
Preston Engineers (Precision) Ltd.	Whittle-le-Woods	28
Procter and Gamble Ltd.	Manchester	46
Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd.	Blackburn	40
Shell Chemicals UK Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	718
Shell Research Ltd.	Ince, Chester	202
Shellstar Ltd.	Ince, Chester	72
Shell UK Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	439
Shopfitters Lancs Ltd.	Accrington	28
Sir Alfred McAlpine and Son Ltd.	'S'	27
Sonneborn and Rieck Ltd.	Holmewood	25
Staflex International Ltd.	Burnley	29
Staveley Lime Products Ltd.	Buxton	32
Swan Lane Spinning Co. (1920) Ltd.	Bolton	49
Triplex Safety Glass Co. Ltd.	St. Helens	40
Typolac (UK) Ltd.	Skelmersdale	36
Vactite Ltd.	Bootle	32
Van Der Berghs and Jergens Ltd.	Bromborough	243
Vauxhall Motors Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	80
Vinyl Products Ltd.	Warrington	25
Ward Blenkinsop and Co. Ltd.	Widnes	32
YKK Fasteners (UK) Ltd.	Runcorn	89
NORTHERN		
Albright and Wilson Ltd.	Whitehaven	186
Alcan (UK) Ltd.	Ashington	215
Allen Bradley Electronics	Jarrow	41
Anglo Great Lakes Corp. Ltd.	Newcastle	39
Armstrong Cork Co. Ltd.	Gateshead	100
Armstrong Cork Co. Ltd.	Thornaby	33
Associated Lead Manufacturers Ltd.	Wallsend	81
Austin and Pickersgill Ltd.	Sunderland	1,423
Aycliffe Development Corp.	Newton Aycliffe	50
Baldwin's Industrial Services Ltd.	Middlesbrough	99
Bowater Scott Corporation Ltd.	Barrow-in-Furness	57
BP Trading Ltd.	Middlesbrough	205
Brims and Co. Ltd.	Newcastle	31
British Industrial Plastics Ltd.	Aycliffe	28
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.	Windscale	427
British Sidac Ltd.	Wigton	64
British Steel Corporation	Consett	200
British Steel Corporation	Hartlepool	275
British Steel Corporation	Lackenby	586
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough	408
British Steel Corporation	Redcar	2,247
British Titan Products Ltd.	Billingham	33
BTP Tioxide Ltd.	Billingham	38
Camtex (Fabrics) Ltd.	Workington	35
Capital Leasing Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	154
C. Herring and Son Ltd.	Hartlepool	29
Commercial Plastics Ltd.	Cramlington	85
Condura Fabrics	Maryport	31
Davy Roll Co. Ltd.	Gateshead	51
Dunlop Ltd.	Gateshead	40
Ever Ready Co. (Great Britain) Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	99
Exquisite Knitwear Ltd.	Cramlington	45
GEC Telecommunications	Hartlepool	70
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Workington	37
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.	Bedlington	100
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.	Ulverston	406
Glaxo Properties Ltd.	Barnard Castle	40
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Billingham	1,202
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Middlesbrough	1,062
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Wilton	819
Imperial Group Ltd.	Newcastle	60
James Walker and Co.	Cockermouth	40
Kier Ltd.	Middlesbrough	42
Laing Offshore	Hartlepool	42
Lloyds Leasing Ltd.	Wallsend	142
Marbourn Ltd.	Hartlepool	95
Material Recovery Ltd.	Newcastle-upon-Tyne	33
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd.	'S'	37
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd.	Kendal	32
Milk Marketing Board	Durham	27
Monsanto Ltd.	Middlesbrough	763
National Coal Board	Blyth	120
National Coal Board	Gateshead	38
National Coal Board	Hartlepool	538
National Coal Board	Horden	138
National Coal Board	Seaham	53
National Coal Board	Wearmouth	61
National Coal Board	Whitehaven	65
Norpipe Petroleum UK Ltd.	Middlesbrough	1,481
Norsea Pipeline Ltd.	Middlesbrough	1,315
NSK Bearings Europe Ltd.	Peterlee	210
Polyamide Intermediates Ltd.	Middlesbrough	345
Procter and Gamble Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	41
Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd.	Stanley	27
Reyrolle Parsons Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	36
RHM Foods Ltd.	Hartlepool	203
Rohm and Haas (UK) Ltd.	Jarrow	132
Royal Ordnance Factory	Birtley	48
Rushley Homes Ltd.	'S'	49
Shell UK Ltd.	Middlesbrough	289
Shepherd, Hill and Co. Ltd.	Consett	202
Shield Packaging Ltd.	Washington	31

Name of company	Place of premises	Grant (£'000)
Sidex Ltd.	Wigton	173
Smith Brothers (Whitehaven) Ltd.	Workington	115
Spillers Food Ltd.	North Shields	33
Sterling Winthrop Group Ltd.	Cramlington	123
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.	Sunderland	183
Swan Hunter Shipbuilding Ltd.	Hebburn	172
Tarmac Construction Ltd.	Keswick	39
Tootal Ltd. T/A Condura Fabrics	Maryport	66
Tyneside Printers Ltd.	Newcastle	25
WALES		
AB Electronic Components Ltd.	Abercynon	31
Air Products Ltd.	Wrexham	27
Alcoa Manufacturing (GB) Ltd.	Swansea	489
Amoco (UK) Ltd.	Milford Haven	167
Argoed Isha Quarries Ltd.	Llanharry	30
Bowmaker (Commercial) Ltd.	Tumble 'S'	48
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Cardiff	69
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Llanelli	215
British Steel Corporation	Cardiff	27
British Steel Corporation	Deeside	217
British Steel Corporation	Ebbw Vale	1,604
British Steel Corporation	Llanelli	39
British Steel Corporation	Merthyr Tydfil	30
British Steel Corporation	Newport	819
British Steel Corporation	Port Talbot	1,047
British Steel Corporation	Tafarnaubach	162
British Tissues Ltd.	Bridgend	46
Brittain's Riegel Ltd.	Wrexham	33
Cam Gears Ltd.	Neath	74
Chance-Pilkington Pilkington Bros. Ltd.	St. Asaph	43
Delaney Galley Ltd.	Ammanford	77
Dow Corning Ltd.	Barry	295
Duport Steel Works Ltd.	Llanelli	206
Eddison Plant Ltd.	Cardiff 'S'	49
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Swansea	86
Gardner Steel Ltd.	Newport	74
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Aberdare	286
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Glynneath	212
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Neath	83
GKN (South Wales) Ltd.	Cardiff	414
Glamorgan Brick Co. Ltd.	Taffs Well	37
Hoover Ltd.	Merthyr Tydfil	104
International Nickel Ltd.	Swansea	45
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Pontypool	110
Johnson and Johnson Ltd.	Pontllanfraith	26
Kronospan Ltd.	Wrexham	28
Lehaney Mackenzie and Shand Ltd.	Aberdare	86
Lehaney Mackenzie and Shand Ltd.	Bridgend	75
Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.	Port Talbot	49
National Coal Board	Bedwas	34
National Coal Board	Glynneath	33
National Coal Board	Llanharan	54
National Coal Board	Newbridge	31
National Coal Board	Treharris	63
Powell Duffryn Engineering Ltd.	Pontyclun	31
Wiggins Teape Ltd.	Cardiff	60
SCOTLAND		
Alginate Industries Ltd.	Girvan	63
Anchor Construction Co. Ltd.	Bo'ness	27
Anderson Mavor Ltd.	Motherwell	32
Austin Packaging Group Ltd.	Cumbernauld	29
Baker Oil Tools (UK) Ltd.	Aberdeen	290
Barclay's Export and Finance Co. Ltd.	Bishopbriggs	172
Barclay's Export and Finance Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	179
Barr and Stroud Ltd.	Glasgow	30
Bass Ltd. (Tenant Caledonian Breweries Ltd.)	Glasgow	185
Beecham Pharmaceuticals UK Division	Irvine	289
BOC Ltd.	Motherwell	1,001
Bowyer Plant Hire and Transport Ltd.	'S'	38
BP Trading Ltd.	Grangemouth	651
British Steel Corporation	Airdrie	283
British Steel Corporation	Bellshill	500
British Steel Corporation	Cambuslang	38
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell	4,559
Brown and Root Wimpey Highlands Fabricators Ltd.	Tain	47
Burroughs Machines Ltd.	Cumbernauld	71
Burroughs Machines Ltd.	Glasgow	44
Caird (Dundee) Ltd.	Dundee	76
Cape Boards and Panels Ltd.	Glasgow	34
Carron Co.	Falkirk	34
Caterpillar Tractor Co. Ltd.	Uddingston	107
Charles Tennent and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	26
Chivas Brothers Ltd.	Ballindalloch	246
Chivas Brothers Ltd.	Beith	396
Chivas Brothers Ltd.	Dufftown	104
Chivas Brothers Ltd.	Keith	155
Ciba-Geigy (UK) Ltd.	Paisley	86
Cleveland Twist Drill Ltd.	Peterhead	45
Clough Mill Ltd.	Innerleithen	27
Computer Leasings Ltd.	Glasgow	68
Daniel Industries Ltd.	Larbert	40
D. B. Marshall (Newbridge) Ltd.	Coatbridge	185
Diss Plant and Trading Co. Ltd.	'S'	26
Distillers Co. (Bottling Services) Ltd.	Leven	310
Dobson Park International Ltd.	Glasgow	29
Don Brothers, Buist and Co. Ltd.	Forfar	51
DRG Packaging Ltd.	Tannochside	32
Drybrough and Co. Ltd.	Edinburgh	28
Edward Gardiner and Sons Ltd.	Selkirk	74
Ethicon Ltd.	Livingston	64
General Motors Scotland Ltd.	Motherwell	46
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	'S'	127
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.	Montrose	63
Graystone Plant Ltd.	'S'	34
Guardbridge Paper Co. Ltd.	Guardbridge	25
Hill Thomson and Co. Ltd.	Newbridge	35
Hiram Walker and Sons (Scotland) Ltd.	Beith	27
Howard Doris Ltd.	Loch Kishorn	131
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Dumfries	159
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Grangemouth	361
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Stevenston	106
Imperial Group Ltd.	Stevenston	400
International Distillers and Vintners Ltd.	Mulben	231
Inveresk Paper Co. Ltd.	Inverkeithing	37
Inveresk Stationery Ltd.	Edinburgh	26
James Jones and Sons Ltd.	Forres	28
James Ross and Son (Edinburgh) Ltd.	Loanhead	29
J. A. Steward (Plant) Ltd.	Glasgow	36
John G. Kincaid and Co. Ltd.	Greenock	111
John Walker and Sons Ltd.	Glasgow	240
John W. Hannay and Co. Ltd.	East Kilbride	64
Joy Manufacturing Co. (UK) Ltd.	Greenock	37
K. and L. (Packers) Ltd.	Glenrothes	62
Key and Kramer BV	Invergordon	64
Key and Kramer Ltd.	Invergordon	26
Kings and Co. Ltd.	Beith	134
Kockum Industries Ltd.	'S'	31
Lamberton and Co. Ltd.	Coatbridge	28
Lloyds and Scottish (Leasing) Ltd.	Glasgow	42
Long John International Ltd.	Glasgow	194
McDermott Scotland	Ardersier	29
McDermott Scotland Div. of Oceanic Contractors Inc.	Ardersier	36
MacFarlane Engineering Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	29
Mercantile Leasing Co. Ltd.	Larkhall	25
Metal Box Ltd.	East Kilbride	113
Metrotect Ltd.	Falkirk	62
Michelin Tyre Co. Ltd.	Dundee	40
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd.	Dumbarton	26
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd.	Livingston	96
Midland Montague Leasing Ltd.	Peterhead	38
MK – Shand	Invergordon	37
Moray Firth Maltings Ltd.	Inverness	193
Motorola Ltd.	East Kilbride	54
Muirhead and Sons Ltd.	Grangemouth	30
Munro and Miller Fittings Ltd.	Broxburn	30
National Coal Board	Alloa	39
National Coal Board	Dunfermline	33
National Coal Board	Kirkcaldy	342
National Coal Board	Millerhill	124
National Coal Board	Ochiltree	429
National Coal Board	Stepps	33
Nobel's Explosives Co. Ltd.	Stevenston	79
Norbrit-Pickering Ltd.	Coatbridge	68
North British Distillery Co. Ltd.	Edinburgh	32
North British Distillery Co. Ltd.	West Calder	38
Polaroid (UK) Ltd.	Dumbarton	65
Prestcold Ltd.	Glasgow	179
Pye TMC Ltd.	Airdrie	41
R. B. Tennent Ltd.	Coatbridge	52
Redpath Dorman Long (North Sea) Ltd.	Methil	34
Rock Fall Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	30
Rockware Glass Ltd.	Irvine	286
Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd.	Glasgow	289
Sandy Gilmour (Plant) Ltd.	'S'	25
Scotboard Ltd.	Irvine	29
Scotstoun Marine Ltd.	Glasgow	263
Scottish Aggregates Ltd.	Johnstone	69
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd.	Edinburgh	313
Scottish Aviation Ltd.	Prestwick	31
Scottish Cables Ltd.	Renfrew	36
Scottish Grain Distillers Ltd.	Glasgow	94
Scottish Grain Distillers Ltd.	Menstrie	69
Scottish Milk Marketing Board	Stranraer	45
Scottish Stamping and Engineering Co. Ltd.	Ayr	112
Simplicity Patterns Ltd.	Blantyre	96
Singer Co. (UK) Ltd.	Clydebank	34
Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd.	Toward	43
SKF (UK) Ltd.	Irvine	208
Smith Anderson and Co. Ltd.	Leslie	98
Speedwell Wire Co. Ltd.	Coatbridge	26
Spillers Foods Ltd.	Glasgow	121
Strathmore Springs Ltd.	Forfar	32
Tarmac Bitumen Products Ltd.	Dundee	28
Tilcon Loch Aline Ltd.	Morven	27
Tilling Construction Services Ltd.	Bowling	57
Tilling Construction Services Ltd.	Inveraray	105
Tomatin Distillers Co. Ltd.	Tomatin	35
Tootal Ltd.	Glasgow	51
Tri-State Oil Tool (UK) Ltd.	Aberdeen	49
Tullis Russell and Co. Ltd.	Glenrothes	618
UG Glass Containers Ltd.	Alloa	262
United Biscuits Ltd.	Glasgow	35
Webster Tyre Co. Ltd.	Aberdeen	29
Wemyss Brick Co. Ltd.	Denbeath	40
Wiggins Teape Ltd.	Aberdeen	194
Wiggins Teape Ltd.	Corpach	34
Wiggins Teape Ltd.	Fort William	51
Wm. Collins Sons and Co. Ltd.	Bishopbriggs	142
Wm. Teacher and Sons Ltd.	Kennethmont	77
Yarrow (Shipbuilders) Ltd.	Glasgow	172
Young's Seafoods Ltd.	Montrose	34

NOTES:
1 'S' indicates use in more than one premises or sites in a development area.
2 Total of payments listed above £59.1 million.
3 Total regional development grant paid in the quarter £94.3 million.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

In the three months ended January 1976 deliveries were estimated to be 4 per cent lower, on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis, than in the three months ended October 1975. Net new orders were 25 per cent lower than in the previous three months, while at the end of January orders on hand were 6 per cent down on the October 1975 level. The index of output in the three months ended January 1976 was 1 per cent lower than in the three months ended October 1975.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumers' expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor Production series under the reference PQ 450.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the Standard Industrial Classification). In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant price value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

The data on pairage and value relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers, classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC, employing 25 or more persons.

Index of output: Orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of output 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)			Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs
1966		33.6			..			16.4			
1967		37.8			16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6			17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6			15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9			16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5		55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5		59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2		85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974	107	44.3		79.5	14.3		30.9	14.4		31.3	18.0
1975 p	100	36.9		87.9	12.7		35.2	13.3		34.5	
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1974 1st quarter	101	51.1	53.3	87.5	15.2	14.1	29.7	13.6	13.4	28.9	13.6
2nd quarter	112	51.9	50.3	95.1	14.7	14.4	32.6	14.4	15.5	30.0	19.4
3rd quarter	110	40.1	49.1	73.7	11.0	14.1	26.8	14.9	14.5	33.9	16.4
4th quarter	105	44.3	50.0	79.5	16.2	14.8	34.6	14.8	14.5	32.7	18.0
1975 1st quarter	106	35.2	38.2	62.3	11.1	10.4	30.5	14.1	14.3	36.2	18.3
2nd quarter	95	40.8	39.8	82.3	14.1	13.4	37.0	12.2	12.9	30.3	23.1
3rd quarter	101	32.8	41.4	69.1	11.3	14.0	32.4	14.0	13.5	36.7	17.4
4th quarter p	98	36.9	43.0	87.9	14.3	13.3	40.9	13.0	12.7	34.6	
1975 January	112	38.1	43.1	70.7	8.1	7.8	27.5	14.3	14.7	36.3	
February	108	32.9	37.0	62.3	9.2	8.7	28.7	14.4	14.7	37.1	
March	98	35.2	38.2	62.3	16.1	14.6	35.2	13.7	13.5	35.2	
April	91	39.9	39.4	75.0	17.7	13.8	44.5	13.0	12.6	31.8	
May	90	43.6	40.3	87.8	14.7	13.0	39.9	11.0	12.1	27.2	
June	104	40.8	39.8	82.3	9.8	13.5	26.5	12.7	14.0	32.0	
July	104	33.7	35.7	67.9	6.6	9.4	23.1	13.7	13.5	37.4	
August	96	32.7	38.6	66.6	11.2	16.3	29.6	12.2	13.4	30.9	
September	103	32.8	41.4	69.1	16.2	16.4	44.3	16.1	13.7	41.9	
October p	99	36.6	43.2	83.5	19.5	14.7	55.3	15.7	12.8	41.0	
November p	96	37.0	41.6	88.8	13.2	11.2	38.8	12.8	12.8	33.5	
December p	98	36.9	43.0	87.9	10.4	14.0	28.5	10.4	12.6	29.3	
1976 January p	100	35.3	40.4	82.7	10.3	10.2	30.1	11.9	12.8	35.2	

p = Provisional

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Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in February 1976 was 1 per cent less than in February 1975. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-February 1976 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 14 per cent lower than in January-February 1975; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 1 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 18 per cent more and that of man-made fibre tops was 12 per cent less.

Output in the wool textile industry

		Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
		Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
			Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
		million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968		177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969		174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970		153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971		141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972		152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973		136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974		112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1975		110.6	46.8	44.4	112.1	75.5	76.8	74.6	24.7
1974	1st quarter	28.4	11.9	13.3	29.5	21.5	22.7	20.9	7.8
	2nd quarter	33.6	12.8	15.5	36.7	23.5	25.8	21.2	7.2
	3rd quarter	25.9	10.0	14.0	28.0	20.6	23.0	19.4	6.4
	4th quarter	24.7	9.1	12.0	28.5	21.6	20.6	21.2	6.8
1975	1st quarter	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
	2nd quarter	29.1	11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
	3rd quarter	25.5	11.4	9.2	24.6	15.7	19.8	17.1	5.7
	4th quarter		12.3	9.6	28.4	19.9	16.8	17.6	6.4
1974	April	11.0	4.4	5.9	12.0	8.1	8.3	7.0	2.4
	May	10.9	4.2	4.8	12.1	7.6	9.0	7.1	2.5
	June	11.7	4.2	4.8	12.6	7.8	8.5	7.1	2.3
	July	9.2	4.0	6.1	9.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	1.6
	August	7.7	2.5	3.7	9.0	6.4	7.5	5.7	2.3
	September	9.0	3.6	4.2	9.7	6.8	7.9	6.8	2.6
	October	8.6	3.3	4.9	10.1	8.4	8.2	7.9	2.5
	November	8.4	3.0	3.8	9.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	2.5
	December	7.7	2.8	3.4	8.8	6.0	5.3	6.4	1.8
1975	January	8.9	3.6	4.3	9.9	7.0	6.1	7.3	2.3
	February	9.1	3.8	4.2	9.5	6.4	5.6	6.6	2.9
	March	9.3	3.9	4.4	10.1	7.0	6.1	6.8	2.5
	April	9.6	4.1	4.5	9.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	1.8
	May	9.3	3.5	3.7	9.9	6.0	7.2	6.3	1.7
	June	10.2	4.3	4.5	10.0	6.4	8.2	6.4	1.6
	July	9.0	4.5	3.8	8.0	5.1	6.7	6.4	1.9
	August	7.0	2.7	2.2	7.5	4.7	5.9	4.5	1.7
	September	9.5	4.2	3.2	9.1	5.9	7.2	6.2	2.1
	October	9.7	4.0	3.6	9.9	7.2	6.6	6.4	2.1
	November	9.7	4.3	3.6	9.2	6.5	5.4	5.7	1.9
	December	9.3	4.0	2.4	9.3	6.2	4.8	5.5	2.4
1976	January		4.5	4.3	9.5	6.4	5.1	5.8	2.6
	February		4.2	3.2	9.2	6.6	5.3	5.9	1.9

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In February deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.8 million kilos.

'Economic Progress Report' for April

The 'Budget pay assumption' – that most people will be better off if the Chancellor's pay limit and tax reliefs are accepted – is explained in the leading article in the April issue of the Treasury's monthly *Economic Progress Report*.

In the words of the article, the Budget 'continues the attack on inflation as the key to a return to full employment, the regeneration of British industry and the achievement of a sound balance of payments'.

The Budget proposed, as its centrepiece, a number of changes in personal taxation which are conditional on a further extension and reinforcement of the present counter-inflation policy. The lower the pay limit agreed for the next pay round, the more scope there will be for adjusting personal taxes.

A table on the front page sets out the benefits from tax reliefs and relatively lower prices which would be associated – for these on average earnings – with a pay limit of 3 per cent in the next round. Comparisons are made with a pay limit of 7½ per cent.

This central Budget strategy, the article notes, is complemented by an extensive list of measures to help build up industrial strength, and to promote recovery of output and employment.

A feature of this issue is the annual economic review taken from the Financial Statement and Budget Report 1976-77.

The final section of this review looks at the Budget forecasts and shows that the recovery, believed to have started in the fourth quarter of 1975, is expected to be sustained throughout the period to mid-1977. A table sets out the forecasts for the main components of expenditure, imports and GDP.

The White Paper: 'Cash Limits on Public Expenditure' (Cmnd. 6440) was published with the Budget. An article on this subject explains how from 1976-77 the control of public expenditure is being buttressed by the application of cash limits to all services where such limits can impose greater financial discipline and precision.

Economic indicators

The 12 charts on the back page give a broad picture of the movements in some of the main economic indicators since 1974. A table containing the most recent figures is on page 7.

Economic Progress Report, prepared by the Treasury's Information Division, is published usually near the beginning of each month.

Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January-February 1976 the amount of cloth woven was 4 per cent more than in January-February 1975. Production of single yarn increased by 10 per cent and doubled yarn decreased by 2 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4	68.4		405.4	503.0
1974 April	2.0	1.9	1.6		8.0	10.5
May*	2.3	2.1	1.7		8.6	10.7
June	2.0	1.9	1.5		9.0	11.2
July*	1.7	1.4	1.3		5.4	7.8
August	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.8
September	1.8	1.5	1.3		6.8	9.9
October*	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.0	11.4
November	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.5	11.1
December	1.6	1.3	1.2		7.7	8.6
1975 January*	1.8	1.5	1.4		8.2	9.7
February	1.9	1.6	1.5		8.8	10.7
March	1.7	1.3	1.3		8.3	9.7
April*	1.8	1.6	1.2		7.7	9.4
May	2.1	1.7	1.5		8.1	10.0
June	1.7	1.6	1.3		8.7	10.1
July*	1.5	1.1	1.1		5.4	7.2
August	1.9	1.5	1.3		8.0	9.4
September	1.4	1.0	1.1		6.4	8.8
October*	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.5	10.9
November	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.7	10.9
December*	1.5	1.2	1.0		5.7	7.8
1976 January	2.1	1.7	1.4		8.6	11.0
February	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.3	10.8

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

A follow-up to Sandilands – indices for current cost accounting

The Central Statistical Office has produced a booklet of price index numbers* for companies and others who wish to experiment with the new system of accounting – current cost accounting (CCA) – proposed in the recent Sandilands Report† on inflation accounting.

The Sandilands Committee recommended that current cost accounting should in future become the basis of companies' published accounts. This booklet has been produced in response to their recommendation that the Government Statistical Service should publish suitable price indices for use in CCA.

As recommended in the Sandilands Report, a Steering Group has been set up by the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies, in consultation with the Accounting Standards Committee, with the main task of preparing an accounting standard for CCA. The booklet is published with the agreement of the Steering Group, to assist companies wishing to experiment with CCA in the meantime.

The Steering Group has contributed a foreword to the booklet in which a number of cautionary comments are made – in particular that 'the Steering Group has not yet decided whether to recommend that indices should be used or, if so, whether the indices in this booklet are the most appropriate. The Steering Group must therefore reserve the right to make some different recommendations on the subject in the exposure draft on current cost accounting which is it preparing.'

The CSO booklet presents all the price indices, of kinds recommended by the Sandilands Committee for use in CCA, that are available at present. It will be updated from time to time while the Steering Group is drafting the CCA standard. Meanwhile, indices for more recent periods will be obtainable from the CSO.

When the standard comes into operation a monthly publication will be needed. The Government Statistical Service is discussing this with the Steering Group.

The booklet states: 'The indices . . . are not necessarily ideal for CCA, and some care will be needed in applying them for this purpose. The text of the booklet describes the data used . . . and the ways in which they are compiled, so that companies can judge how best to use them for CCA.

'The Government Statistical Service will be considering with the Steering Group, and in the light of companies' experience in using the indices, what deficiencies need to be remedied and how far it is practicable to remedy them: to what extent it is possible to provide a more detailed and extended range of indices, and what further guidance can be given to companies using them.'

The Central Statistical Office would welcome comments on the contents of the booklet from companies or accountants who use it for current cost accounting.

* Price index numbers for Current Cost Accounting, HMSO, £1.50.

† Report of the Inflation Accounting Committee (Cmnd. 6225), HMSO, £4.25. See also *Trade and Industry*, 5 September 1975, page 556.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Index of retail sales in Northern Ireland in February

The seasonally adjusted index of the value of retail sales in Northern Ireland for February was 229 (1965 = 100), 15 per cent more than in February 1975.

After allowing for price changes, the total volume of sales in February decreased by about 7 per cent compared with the corresponding period last year.

The seasonally adjusted index numbers of the value of sales in February and the percentage increases on a year earlier for the main groups of traders are shown below. More detailed information can be obtained from the Department of Commerce, Index of Retail Sales, 21 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BZ (tel. Belfast (0232) 28081, ext. 140).

		February 1976	
Sales by:	Sales in 1965 – £m	Seasonally adjusted value index numbers 1965 = 100	Percentage increases
All kinds of business	219	229	15
Food shops	97	263	20
Non-food shops	122	199	10
Of which:			
Clothing and footwear shops	36	199	1
Durable goods shops	21	199	11
Miscellaneous non-food shops	43	205	13
Department and general stores	22	189	15

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'Energy Trends': domestic energy consumption down 10 per cent in last quarter of 1975

Energy consumption by final users on a heat supplied basis during the last three months of 1975 was about 7.5 per cent lower than in the same period of 1974.

Domestic sector energy consumption during this period was more than 10 per cent lower than in the same period of 1974. Consumption by the iron and steel industry and by other manufacturing industries was respectively 17 and 6 per cent lower, but this decline was less marked than in earlier quarters and lends support to indications of an upturn in industrial activity.

Total energy consumption on a primary fuel input basis during the three months December 1975-February 1976 was about 2 per cent lower than in the same months of 1974/5 after seasonal adjustment and temperature correction.

These figures are shown in the latest issue of *Energy Trends*, the Department of Energy's monthly statistical bulletin.

Consumption of solid fuels fell by 25 per cent during the last quarter of 1975 compared with 1974. Alone among the individual fuels, gas consumption rose by 3 per cent.

Deep-mined coal production declines

Production of deep-mined coal in the three months January-March 1976 was about 7 per cent lower than in the same months last year, but opencast production rose by more than 10 per cent.

Total coal consumption in this period increased slightly due to higher demand at power stations.

Domestic demand boosts gas sales

Gas sales in the last quarter of 1975 rose by 5.5 per cent, bringing total gas sales for the year to over 13,000 millions therms – 3.5 per cent more than in 1974.

Domestic sector sales rose by some 500 million therms in 1975 and there was a small increase in sales to public administration and commercial customers. Total demand by the industrial sector was 2.5 per cent lower in 1975 than the year before.

Slump in domestic electricity demand

Domestic sector demand for electricity fell by over 8 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1975, and total electricity sales were down by 5.5 per cent.

Electricity supplied in the three months December 1975-February 1976 was slightly higher than in the corresponding period a year ago, with colder weather and some possible increase in economic activity stimulating demand.

Petroleum – lighter products in demand

Total deliveries of petroleum products during the three months December 1975–February 1976 were 7.5 per cent lower than in the corresponding months a year earlier. But deliveries of motor spirit and aviation fuel were higher, and demand for lighter grade heating oil also rose in response to colder weather.

Refinery output in the same period was nearly 6.5 per cent lower than a year earlier but, reflecting demand, there was a swing towards lighter products at the expense of fuel oil. Output of motor spirit and refinery gases each rose above the levels of a year ago.

New table

A table of industrial sector fuel prices appears in *Energy Trends* for the first time this month. Updated tables will be included once every three months.

Two methods of measuring energy consumption are used in *Energy Trends*. One method assesses the total primary fuel input before allowing for conversion and distribution losses in, for example, power stations and transmission lines. The other method measures heat supplied to final users either directly as primary fuel or after conversion of, for example, coal and oil into electricity.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

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Air transport: trade by air (6M)	28 Nov. 1975
Balance of payments:	
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trends in invisible transactions	16 Apr. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
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Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	2 Apr. 1976
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Catering trades turnover (M)	16 Apr. 1976
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Guide to Departments	19 Mar. 1976
Official Receivers' offices	23 Apr. 1976
Programme of trade promotions	30 Apr. 1976
Release dates of economic statistics	23 Apr. 1976

Customs notices of interest to exporters

The following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from local offices of Customs and Excise, addresses of which appear in the telephone directory, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

7	Drawback of Excise Duty on mixed or blended beers.
17	Arrangements for preferential trade between the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom.
49	Temporary importations: international co-operation.
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172	Hydrocarbon Oils: drawback of Excise Duty.
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210	Temporary importation of films and similar goods for copying, printing, etc., to fulfil export orders.
221	Duty relief under the Import Duties Act 1958, and pre-financing of Common Agricultural Policy Export refunds.
224	Beer exported on drawback as merchandise: examination and sampling.
241	European Economic Community: Compensatory Levy.
275	Documentation of Exports for Statistical Purposes.
276	Customs Entry forms in the C273 Series: Guidance on their completion.
290	Export of personal and household effects.
291	Effect of budget changes on claims for drawback.
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703	VAT – Exports.
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750 and Supplement	Community transit – this describes the system as a whole.
750A	List of Community Transit Offices.
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751 and Supplement	Notes on completing Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3 and Control Copy T forms.
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774	Hydrocarbon Oils Customs Duties: Additions of *Ad Valorem* Protective Element.
800 (Aug 1975)	The European Economic Community. Common Agricultural Policy: Customs procedures in respect of export refunds, levies and licences.
810	EEC Preferences – Free Trade Agreements between the EEC and the EFTA countries.
810A	EEC Preferences – EFTA Countries. Simplification of the documentation system described in Notice 810. Introduction of universal form of movement certificate EUR 1.
811	EEC Preferences – Greece.
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821	EEC Preferences – simplified procedure for sending evidence to EEC customers about the origin of goods.
825	The ACP/EEC Convention of Lomé: tariff preferences.
830	Arrangements between Denmark and United Kingdom.

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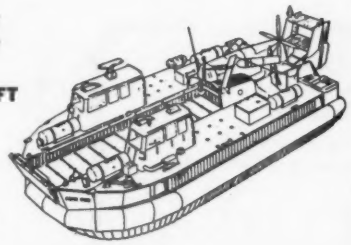

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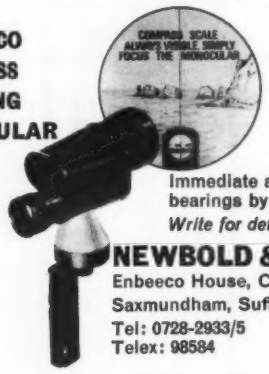

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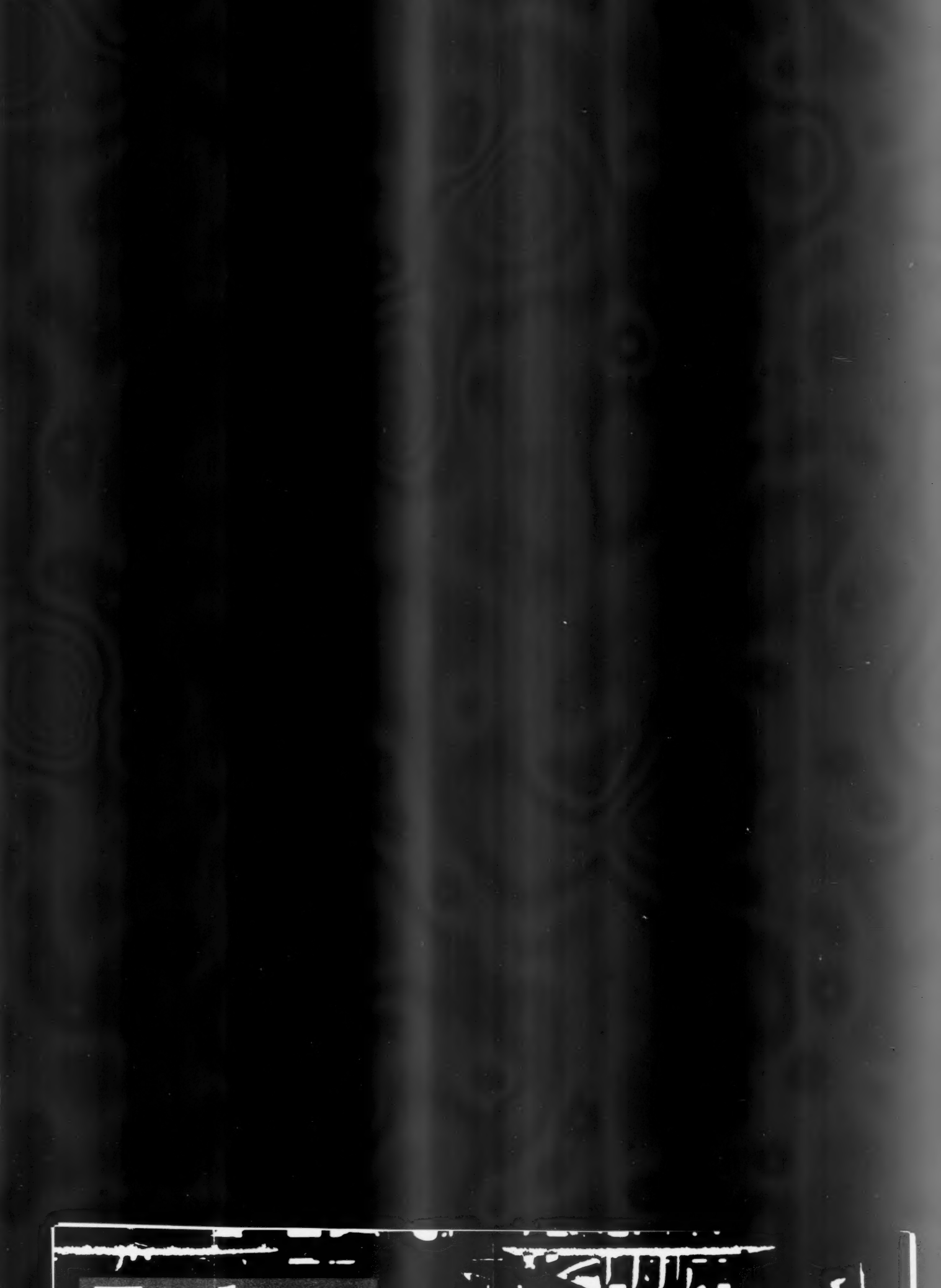
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